MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 DECEMBER 1981

Israeli-U.S. Relations

Jerusalem radio reported that during a meeting with U.S. Senator Charles Percy, Prime Minister Menahem Begin repeatedly stressed Israel's "serious reservations" about U.S. behavior toward Israel. Another radio report said Percy made it clear that an improvement in U.S.-Israeli relations depends on Israel's willingness to accept three or four more Arab countries in the peace process. However, according to Jerusalem radio, Percy later said the meeting had cleared up misunderstandings and opened a new page in U.S.-Israeli relations. The radio noted that the talks covered the Golan Heights issue, the situation in southern Lebanon and the autonomy talks.

Jerusalem radio revealed that Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche visited Washington a few days ago for talks with senior U.S. officials on bilateral relations.

Israeli-Egyptian Relations

According to HA'ARETZ, during a 28 December meeting with Likud faction members, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir criticized official Egyptian statements calling on the United States to punish Israel because of the Golan Heights Law. He said the United States should understand that the Camp David agreement could be undermined if the commitment of one of the partners weakened. According to Jerusalem radio's Arabic service, an Egyptian Foreign Ministry official spokesman denied that any official Egyptian statement had mentioned the application of sanctions against Israel. He noted that Egypt has not sought and will not seek sanctions but has asked the United States to play a positive role in removing the "obstacle" of the Golan Heights Law from the path of peace. On the other hand, MENA reported that the 30 December issue of the Egyptian newspaper AL-JUMURIYAH called on the United States to join the international community in whatever measures it decides to take against Israel over the Golan Heights issue to make Israel understand that annexing the land of others is inconsistent with the peace process.

Egypt

Cairo radio reported that the defense lawyers in the As-Sadat assassination trial walked out of the court after it rejected their arguments that the charges against the defendants are unconstitutional. One of the defense lawyers said the walkout was in protest at the court's refusal to hold the trial in public and to allow certain witnesses to appear, AFP reported. According to Cairo radio, the lawyers were fined 50 pounds each and the trial was postponed until 5 January. The radio said other lawyers will be assigned to the case.

Lebanon

The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio broadcast a statement issued by the Higher Security Committee of the Lebanese National Movement and the Arab Deterrent Forces listing the objectives of the new security measures in Beirut as: 1) Stopping the sabotage campaign launched by "hostile forces," 2) removing all "armed manifestations" and strictly punishing violators, 3) preventing the firing of guns during celebrations and 40 ensuring the removal of vehicles and obstacles from the streets and sidewalks. The radio noted that joint patrols have been deployed to detect explosives and surveil possible sabotage targets.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Syrian Mediation -- According to SANA, Kuwait has welcomed President Hafiz al-Asad's reported intention to hold contacts with the Iranian leaders to end the war. Kuwait is ready to contribute to the success of this mission, the report said. SANA also noted that an Iranian delegation headed by Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati would arrive in Damascus on 31 December. Meanwhile, Tehran radio reported that Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi welcomed the possibility of a visit to Iran by President al-Asad. Baghdad radio's Voice of Arab Syria denounced Al-Asad's support for Iran, describing him as "more Persian than the Persians" because of his denials that Iran has received arms from Israel -- an accusation which, the radio said, even the Iranians themselves have admitted.

Iranian Warning to Gulf States -- Tehran radio reported that in a press conference Iranian Government spokesman Ahmad Tavakkoli asked Gulf countries not to support Iraq in its war with Iran lest they suffer the same "fate" as Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. Noting U.S. support for the Gulf Cooperation Council, he said Iran would like the Arabs to be united, "but this unity should not be planned by the United States."

Iran

Rafsanjani Remarks, Khalkhali Assignment -- In a speech to the Majlis reported by Tehran radio, Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani called for a "sharp and bloody purge" to eliminate terrorist opponents of the regime. According to the clandestine Radio Iran, Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali has been authorized to purge the armed forces of opponents of the regime.

Security Situation -- Tehran radio reported that revolution guards in Rasht arrested 15 Peykar members and 11 Mojahedin-e Khalq during the past week. According to Ahvaz radio, Andimeshk revolution guards arrested 12 Mojahedin recently. The clandestine Radio Iran said revolution guards have arrested 172 opponents of the regime in Tehran.

PARS becomes IRNA -- Tehran radio reported that the Majlis approved a bill changing the name of PARS news agency to the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY (IRNA). The news agency began transmissions under the new name on 29 December.

Iraqi-Libyan Relations

Citing diplomatic sources in Amman, Monte Carlo radio reported that Iraq and Libya have restored diplomatic relations.

Afghanistan

According to IRNA, Afghan guerrillas downed two Soviet helicopter gunships and killed 104 Soviet troops during clashes in Helmand Province.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FATAH COMMITTEE DISCUSSES LEBANON, OTHER ISSUES

NC300828 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] The Fatah Central Committee held a meeting yesterday evening in the presence of Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces. During the meeting, the committee discussed the current political situation and the latest developments at the Arab and international levels as well as the situation in the occupied land and our people's escalating upsurge in the face of Zionist arrogance.

The Fatah Central Committee also reviewed the latest contacts that the Palestinian command has held with Arab and international circles. A number of subcommittees have been formed to follow up these contacts. The Fatah Central Committee also reviewed the escalating military situation in southern Lebanon and the grave possibilities and dangerous implications of the increasing Israeli military concentrations and threats -- the increasing land, naval and air activities and the intensive overflights.

During the meeting, the Fatah Central Committee adopted a number of important decisions and measures to confront the developments.

MUSLIM LEAGUE LEADER CONDEMNS USSR 'OCCUPATION'

LD271440 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1320 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] Mecca, 27 Dec (SPA) -- Shaykh Muhammad 'Ali al-Harakan, secretary general of the Muslim World League, has appealed to all Muslims to rise materially and morally to the aid of the Islamic jihad movement [haraka al-jihad al-islami] in Afghanistan considering that this movement holds a steadfast line against the red-communist march against the entire Islamic nation.

Shaykh al-Harakan also appealed to the Afghan people to unite in their deeds and words in view of the great power that this unity has for the mujahidin in gaining their freedom and independence and in destroying the injustice which is oppressing this region. He called on Muslims to engage in jihad to confront the injustice, in accordance with the words of Almighty God: "Leave is given to those who fight because they were wronged; surely God is able to help them," and His words: "If you help God, he will help you."

In the statement issued today by the Islamic World League on the second anniversary of the Soviet aggression against Muslim Afghanistan, the secretary general of the Muslim World League condemened the Soviet Government's brutal treatment of the Muslim Afghan people.

Shaykh al-Harakan stressed that the flagrant Soviet occupation of Afghan territory is considered a vicious new colonialism against [words indistinct] and their struggle to hold onto their faith and the unity of their homeland. He added that the Muslim Afghan people today are facing mass extermination and the destruction of their mosques, homes and agricultural land. The Soviet Government uses the most horrible types of destructive weapons against those people and totally destroys villages and ruins entire farms.

Shaykh al-Harakan stressed that the steadfastness of the Muslim Afghan mujahidin and their struggle, which has attracted the attention of Muslims and the world, will shortly be crowned by victory and by the expulsion of the occupier from the land it has usurped.

BAHRAIN

AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ NAMES LEADER OF SABOTAGE PLOT

GF300704 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0613 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Manama, 30 Dec (WAKH) -- The Bahraini newspaper AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ has disclosed that the mastermind behind the sabotage plot uncovered in Bahrain is Hojjat Ol-Eslam Hadi (Modarresi), who was appointed director of a department called "the Gulf affairs section" by the Iranian leadership after the revolution.

In a report from Beirut published today, the newspaper says Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi (Modarresi) -- who fled from Iran to Bahrain during the shah's rule -- is supervising two organs as part of his duties as director of the Gulf affairs section. The first organ prepares radio programs broadcast daily in Arabic and Persian by Tehran radio and beamed to the Gulf countries. The second organ collects information on the countries of the region.

The newspaper adds that as director of the Gulf affairs section, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hadi (Modarresi) was charged with leading the sabotage group discovered in Bahrain.

The newspaper stresses in its report that the sabotage act had goals beyond Bahrain, that it was part of a plot to create sectarian and security distrubances in all Gulf countries. In this regard, the newspaper refers to Iranian attempts to stage demonstrations in Saudi Arabia during the pilgrimage period and the attempt to blow up oil installations in Umm Shu'ayb in Kuwait.

MOROCCAN MINISTER DELIVERS SUPPORT MESSAGE

GF291116 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 39 Dec 81

[Text] Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received at Ar-Rifa' Palace at 0900 today Moroccan Information, Youth and Sports Minister Dr Abdelwahad Belkeziz, who came to greet him on the occasion of his visit to Bahrain. The meeting was attended by Bahraini Information Minister Tariq 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad.

The Moroccan minister later made a statement to the GULF NEWS AGENCY. He said he had delivered to the amir a written message from his brother King Hassan II of Morocco dealing with Morocco's stand on the sabotage plot which Bahrain quickly foiled. He also said he was sent on the Moroccan monarch's instructions to affirm to the amir the stand of his majesty and the Moroccan Government and people toward fraternal Bahrain and its people on the sabotage plot which the amir, through his wisdom was able to stave off.

He pointed out that the written message covered various issues, including bilateral relations, the current Arab situation and latest developments in Bahrain after the discovery of the sabotage plot. He said King Hassan expressed his solidarity and readiness to support any actions the amir deems necessary to take against this sabotage group that includes mean-spirited people motivated by known parties who hate the Arabs and who see stability and progress in the region as threats to their empty slogans. He said the plot was not aimed at Bahrain alone but would also have undermined the region and other Arab countries.

The Moroccan minister affirmed that Bahrain is supported by all Arab countries against sabotage plots. These countries stand unified against those who try to interfere in Bahrain's internal affairs.

On information cooperation between Bahrain and Morocco, the Moroccan minister said there is cooperation and coordination between them and an agreement will be signed when the Bahraini information minister visits Rabat soon. He said the agreement will cover various sectors -- press, television, news, radio and other information fields that concern both countries.

The Moroccan minister arrived early today on a short visit to Bahrain.

AL-ADWA' ADMONISHES SYRIAN RADIO, 'ARAFAT

GF261344 Manama AL-ADWA' in Arabic 26 Dec 81 pp 1, 12

[Article by "a very frank commentator" entitled: "Let Us Follow Up the Conference's Success"]

[Excerpt] The Gulf countries should follow up the great success achieved by the Fes summit and the "Fes minisummit" held in Abu Dhabi during the OAPEC conference. The Gulf countries should follow up that success with an even greater success so as to expose the ignorance, falsehood and hypocrisy that have plagued inter-Arab relations for the past 50 years, from 1919 until the Fes conference. The practice of coverups and sweeping differences under the carpet must stop. We have to begin -- and let Bahrain be the beginner.

Israel has annexed the Golan Heights. The Gulf countries do not view this as a drastic event at all. They simply view it as a matter of procedure. The grave event occurred 14 years ago in April 1967 when steps were taken, not explained to the Gulf countries, that led to the loss of Jerusalem and Palestine as well as the Golan. Israeli aggression and occupation are very open and clear, and will be eliminated only when the Arabs are free of charlatanry, falsehood and hypocrisy.

Bahrain has released a statement saying that a gang of misled Bahrainis has been arrested and its members are being interrogated. How can the Syrian radio broadcast the Iranian report on this incident? Even the BBC -- which has at one time been called "the sister of Musaylamah the liar" -- reported the Bahraini statement. Syria must explain the Syrian stand toward Bahrain to the Gulf countries before it explains the Syrian stand on the Golan. We consider Bahrain and the Golan equal in value and importance -- both are important and vital parts of the Arab homeland. It is our duty to preserve Bahrain and to seek to liberate and regain the Golan. We want a clear explanation. We sincerely hope Syria will not deny what its radio has broadcast, thus insulting our intelligence after having hurt our feelings.

We have also heard that "Brother" Yasir 'Arafat, or "Abu 'Ammar," which is his nom de guerre, will visit the region and explain to the Gulf people what he did in Greece and Austria. Gulf citizens of all walks of life have been blessed with enough money to buy radios. The Almighty has blessed them with hearing and understanding so they are able to hear and comprehend what is being said. They understood the statements of support Abu 'Ammar won in Greece and Austria. This support is necessary and desirable and we congratulate Abu 'Ammar on his achievement. However, before Abu 'Ammar visits us to explain what we already know and understand, we want him to explain clearly and frankly his position on Fahd's plan. In line with the spirit of Fes, and out of our desire to end the ambiguity and oscillation in Arab politics, we demand that his stand be clear and unequivocal. We will respect him even if he says, "I am too weak to give my view on this matter." Then we shall take God's advice. God charges and soul beyond its capacity," [Koran] and we would not charge Abu 'Ammar with more than his capacity. However, the Gulf countries do not accept hearing one view in Fes, another view in Riyadh, and another in Damascus or Beirut.

CABINET APPROVES PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCES

GF271343 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1215 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] Manama, 27 Dec (WAKH) -- The Bahraini Cabinet convened today in a regular session under His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, the heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain defense force.

The Cabinet approved Bahrain's participation in the Arab Gulf countries health ministers conference to be held in Kuwait from 4 to 7 January 1982 and the participation of a Bahraini delegation in the Arab Gulf countries labor and social affairs conference to be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

BRIEFS

INDIAN SATELLITE CHANNEL -- Indian news will reach Bahrain quicker in the new year. A leading news agency, the UNITED NEWS OF INDIA [UNI], is to open a new satellite channel to the island. B.R.P. Bhaskar, regional manager of UNI, said the present satellite channel to Dubai will be extended to Bahrain. The first satellite news channel between India and the UAE was opened at the beginning of this year. "We have applied to Emirate Telecommunications to extend the channel to enable us to exchange material with local media including the GULF NEWS AGENCY," Mr Bhaskar said. At the initiative of Kuwait's Ministry of Information, the UNI channel was extended last week for Kuwait radio and TV. The GULF NEWS AGENCY made news exchange arrangements with another agency, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA, earlier. [Text] [Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 21 Dec 81 p 3 GF]

KUWAIT

SRV OFFICIAL ARRIVES FOR FRIENDSHIP VISIT

LD291342 Kuwait KUNA in English 1130 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Kuwait, 29 Dec (KUNA) -- The Vietnamese deputy premier, Tran Quynh, arrived here noon Tuesday with a message from the Vietnamese president to his highness the amir, which he will deliver Wednesday.

The Vietnamese envoy told KUNA upon arrival that he was carrying the greetings and sentiments of friendship and cooperation from the Vietnamese president to the amir, the crown prince and prime minister and the friendly Kuwaiti people whom he expressed pleasure at being in their midst.

Quynh expressed his country's gratitude for the assistance and support rendered by Kuwait to Vietnam during the days of struggle and in the present reconstruction and development of the Far Eastern socialist state.

The Vietnamese emissary said that the Vietnamese people were pleased with the accomplishments of Kuwait in all fields under the leadership of H.H. the amir, especially the national independence cause and the development of the state, the effective contribution to the common struggle of the Arab people and that waged by the Palestinian people for the restoration of their occupied territories and fulfilment of their national rights.

Quynh demanded the United States, which he said is currently engaged in consolidating and promoting its presence in the Gulf, to respect the sovereignty and national independence of all states of the region and to withdraw its forces from this very sensitive area and voiced high praise for Kuwait for exerting genuine efforts to make the Gulf a region of peace and stability.

The Vietnamese official, who was received at the airport by the health minister, Abd ar-Rahman al-'Awadi and the Vietnamese ambassador, proceeded from the airport to the National Assembly where he met the Deputy Premier, Foreign Minister and Acting Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir.

Shaykh Sabah welcomed the Vietnamese official and praised the struggle of the Vietnamese people for political independence and discussed with him bilateral relations and other matters of mutual concern.

Shaykh Sabah told KUNA Quynh will deliver a message from the Vietnamese president to his highness the amir Wednesday.

The envoy is reported to have reviewed with Shaykh Sabah the position of his country regarding the Arab issues in general and the Palestinian cause in particular, in addition to bilateral relations and other issues of mutual concern.

Received by Amir

LD301052 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] His Highness the amir today received Tran Quynh, vice chairman of the State Council of the Vietnamese Socialist Republic, who conveyed a message from his excellency the chairman of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [Pham Van Dong].

The minister of public health and acting minister of state for Cabinet affairs, Dr 'Abd ar-Rahman 'Abdallah al-'Awadi attended the meeting.

SAUDI ARABIA

BANGLADESH PRESIDENT PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT

Performs Pilgrimage

GF261850 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 26 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Bangladesh President Abdus Sattar arrived in Jidda at 1630 today on a 3-day visit to Saudi Arabia. He was received at the airport by Prince Majid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the amir of the Mecca district; Gen Mansur ash-Shu'aybi, commander of the western region; Salim Sunbul, chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; 'Abd al-'Aziz (Juhdar), chief of the royal protocol in Jidda; Shaykh Fu'ad al-Khatib, Saudi ambassador to Bangladesh; and Mohammad Mohsen, Bangladesh ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

President Abdus Sattar is scheduled to arrive in Riyadh from Jidda tomorrow to begin his official visit. King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz will receive him at the airport.

The delegation accompanying President Abdus Sattar includes Foreign Minister Prof Mohammad Shamsul Haq, Finance Minister Mohammed Saifur Rahman, the minister of posts, telegraph and telephones, tourism and civil aviation, and senior Bangladesh officials.

President Abdus Sattar performed the little pilgrimage this evening.

Arrives in Riyadh

LD271312 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] Judge Abdus Sattar, president of the Republic of Bangladesh, arrived in Riyadh at 1130 this morning from Jidda, as part of his 3-day official visit to the kingdom.

Heading the airport welcoming party were His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard; His Royal Highness Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, governor of Riyadh region; Dr Mohammad al-Mulhim, minister of state, member of the Council of Ministers and the accompanying ministers; and Shaykh 'Abdallah al-'Ali al-Na'im, mayon of Riyadh city. A number of royal princes, ministers and high-ranking civilian and military officials were also at the airport.

Ministers Confer

LD272242 Riyadh SPA in English 1916 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] Riyadh, 27 Dec (SPA) -- Foreign minister, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal today conferred with his Bangladesh counterpart Prof. Mohammad Shamsul Haq on bilateral relations, regional and international issues of mutual concern.

Meanwhile, Minister of Finance and National Economy Shaykh Mohammad Aba al-Khayl met with Bangladesh opposite number Mohammad Saifur Rahman and discussed with him means of further boosting trade cooperation between Saudi Arabia and Bangladesh.

The two sides' talks covered the prospects of increasing activities of Bangladesh contractors in the kingdom and possibility of setting up a joint Saudi-Bangladesh company for investment.

The two Bangladesh ministers are accompanying the visiting Bangladesh President Abdus Sattar who arrived in Riyadh earlier Sunday on a 3-day official visit to Saudi Arabia.

Sattar Holds Press Conference

LD281322 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1120 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Riyadh, 28 Dec (SPA) -- His excellency President Justice Abdus Sattar of the Republic of Bangladesh, said at a press conference this afternoon at the guest residence that his talks this morning with His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Saudi officials were very fruitful and successful. He said the talks took place in a cordial atmosphere and will lead to the strengthening of existing relations between the two countries. He added that his visit to Saudi Arabia is the first visit he has made since becoming president. He expressed his profound pleasure with this visit and described the existing relations between his country and Saudi Arabia as very firm and founded on religious, cultural and economic links.

His Excellency President Justice Abdus Sattar expressed his appreciation for the aid given by Saudi Arabia to Bangladesh. He also expressed his country's support for the Saudi view that the world needs to find a new economic system based on justice, equality and support by the rich countries to the less developed countries.

His excellency the president of Bangladesh once again condemned the decision of the Israeli enemy to annex the Golan Heights. He said he had mentioned in a press conference in Bangladesh prior to his visit to Saudi Arabia that the international community should use every means to force Israel to rescind the decision and to withdraw Israeli forces from occupied Arab territories. He stressed his country's full solidarity with the Arab countries in their stand on the Middle East question and the Palestinian problem.

His excellency the president of Bangladesh demanded the withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan and for the Afghan people to be given the right to self-determination and to choose the regime they want without any foreign intervention. In this connection, he stressed his country's support for the resolutions of the Third Islamic Conference in Mecca on the Afghan issue.

Foreign Minister Haq's Remarks

LD281510 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1140 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Riyadh, 28 Dec (SPA) -- Bangladesh Foreign Minister Mohammad Shamsul Haq has made it clear that the talks held by the Bangladesh delegation under the leadership of President Abdus Sattar, and his majesty the king in Saudi Arabia dealt with a number of regional and international topics of mutual interest between Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia. Shamsul Haq said that the talks took place in an extremely fraternal and cordial atmosphere.

He added that the Bangladesh delegation expressed its profound appreciation for His Majesty King Khalid's statement in which he pointed out that Bangladesh is very close to the heart of the Saudi Government and people, and of Saudi Arabia's strong concern for the continued development, progress, security and stability in Bangladesh. Shamsul Haq stressed that the strong cooperation ties between Saudi Arabia and Bangladesh were based on strong and fraternal relations which linked the peoples of the two countries.

Regarding the visit of President Abdus Sattar, the foreign minister said this is the first visit by the new president to Saudi Arabia. There are three reasons for this visit: first, to perform the little pilgrimage and pay a visit to the prophet's Mosque in Madinah; second, to meet His Majesty King Khalid [word indistinct]; and third, to strengthen and renew relations between Bangladesh and Saudi Arabia in particular and between Bangladesh and Islamic countries in general.

Foreign Minister Haq said the main purpose of his country's foreign policy is to establish good relations with its neighbors in accordance with the principle declared by former President Ziaur Rahman on setting up of the cooperation council for the states of South Asia.

He pointed out that there are some problems with India. He said that during his meeting with India's foreign minister last September, they agreed to settle these problems peacefully. He added that necessary measures are currently being taken to implement the agreement on this signed with the Indian minister.

He added that President Abdus Sattar is paying great attention to solving the economic problems facing Bangladesh. He said he is concentrating on agricultural development, and increasing agricultural production and paying attention to health problems. He pointed out that these steps are included in the second development plan of Bangladesh. He expressed appreciation for the constructive aid extended by Saudi Arabia to solve the problems faced by Bangladesh.

Foreign Minister Haq said that economic cooperation between Saudi Arabia and Bangladesh constitutes part of the fraternal cooperation among the Islamic countries which stems from the historic Mecca declaration at the Third Islamic Summit held in Mecca and At-Ta'if. He added that his country considers cooperation among Islamic countries as a matter necessary for economic safety and to ensure the political independence of the Islamic world. He stressed the need to continue along this path.

Delegation Departs for Madinah

LD281500 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1401 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Riyadh, 28 Dec (SPA) -- Bangladesh President Abdus Sattar left Riyadh at 1515 this afternoon for Madinah. He was seen off at the airport by His Royal Highness Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard.

The Bangladesh president is accompanied on his visit to Madinah by Dr Alawi Darwish Kayyal, minister of posts, telephones and telegraph.

Communique Issued

LD291536 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Dec 81

["Text" of joint communique issued at the conclusion of the visit of Justice Abdus Sattar, president of Bangladesh, to Saudi Arabia for talks with King Khalid, 26-29 December]

[Text] At the invitation of His Majesty, King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al Sa'ud, king of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, His Excellency Justice Abdus Sattar, president of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, paid an official visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 26 to 29 December 1981. His excellency the foreign minister, Saifur Rahman, and his excellency the minister of posts, telegraph and telephones and civil aviation, [title as heard] Moidul Islam, were among the officials accompanying his excellency the president.

On arrival in the kingdom, his excellency the president of Bangladesh and members of his delegation were given a warm and fraternal welcome. His excellency the president of Bangladesh expressed deep appreciation for the noble invitation from His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to visit the kingdom. His excellency the president also expressed profound gratitude for the official reception and hospitality given to him and his delegation. His excellency also expressed admiration for the major achievements realized in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in all spheres under the wise and active leadership of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. He also expressed Bangladesh's appreciation for the spiritual leadership the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia gives to the Islamic world, the important role the kingdom plays in the consolidation of solidarity among the nations and its commitment to the principles of peace, freedom and human justice.

His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz praised the attempts by the People's Republic of Bangladesh to realize the goals of national development and economic and social progress. He stressed the glorious contributions made by the late President Ziaur Rahman to national and Islamic issues, congratulated His Excellency Justice Abdus Sattar on his victory in the presidential elections and expressed confidence that Bangladesh will make speedy progress under the wise leadership of the new president.

During the visit, the two leaders held detailed talks dealing with issues of mutual interest on bilateral relations and regional and international issues. They also discussed the issues of interest to both the Islamic and the Arab worlds. The talks were held in an atmosphere of fraternity and confidence which characterize the relations between the two countries and which are based on religious and cultural ties. They found their views to be similar on many international issues.

The Bangladesh side included: His Excellency Foreign Minister Mohammad Shamsul Haq; His Excellency Finance Minister Saifur Rahman; His Excellency Minister of Posts, Telegraph and Telephones and Civil Aviation Moidul Islam; His Excellency Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Chowdhury; His Excellency Planning Ministry Under Secretary Hussaini; and His Excellency the Ambassador of Bangladesh to the Kingdom Mohammaed Mohsin.

The Saudi delegation included: His Royal Highness Prince Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs; His Excellency Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy; His Excellency Dr Alawi Kayyal, minister of posts, telegraph and telephones; His Excellency Dr Muhammad al-Mulham, minister of state; His Excellency Ambassador Abbas Fa'id Ghazzawi, head of the Asian and African Department [at the Foreign Ministry] and His Excellency Fu'ad al-Khatib, the Saudi ambassador to Bangladesh.

The two leaders noted with great satisfaction the continuing growth of bilateral relations, and reaffirmed their determination to further develop cooperation in all fields. They also expressed their deep belief that Islam represents the main framework and the guiding power for their respective policies, and that it is the power that links both countries with an unbreakable unity. They reaffirmed their conviction that correct understanding of the spirit and values of Islam leads to just understanding of peoples and nations and provides a solution for the complicated issues now facing the modern world. The two leaders repeated their resolve to give full priority to Islamic solidarity and their cooperation on all issues connected with their national independence and territorial safety.

The two leaders reviewed the international, political and economic situation, and stressed the need to consolidate and strengthen world peace and security on the basis of the principles of equality, sovereignty and territorial safety; the noninterference in the internal affairs of others; and the resolution of all differences by peaceful means. They also reaffirmed the need for total commitment to the principles and aims of the UN Charter and the Islamic Conference Organization. They recognized that cooperation and solidarity among the Islamic states are the most important issues facing the Islamic world today.

The two leaders called for concentrated cooperation in all fields among the member countries of the Islamic Conference Organization. In this connection they stressed anew the significance of the historic Mecca Declaration. They expressed their resolve to cooperate in the realization of the aims and resolutions of the declaration.

When reviewing the current Middle East situation, the two leaders expressed deep anxiety at the dangerous escalation of Zionist aggression and Israel's acts of terrorism against the Arabs and the Islamic world, including the Palestinian people, and at Israel's repeated violation of the resolutions of the United Nations and other international bodies and world opinion. They repeated their strict conviction that just and permanent peace in the Middle East cannot be realized except on the basis of the Israeli forces' total and unconditional withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, including holy Jerusalem, and the regaining of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to establish their independent state in their homeland under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. They totally rejected Israel's annexation of the holy city of Jerusalem as an illegal measure and a flagrant violation of all international laws and norms. The two leaders also condemned the recent Israeli annexation of the Syrian Golan Heights. They described this measure as a provocative act, disregarding and violating all international laws and norms.

His excellency the president of Bangladesh repeated the pledge of the people and Government of Bangladesh to fully support the just Arab issues, and expressed his deep appreciation for the positive and constructive initiatives taken by His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz in this connection.

His excellency the president of Bangladesh welcomed the eight-point Arab [Saudi] peace plan, describing it as a constructive initiative for solving the Middle East problem. The two sides reaffirmed their total support for the establishment of a peace zone in the Indian Ocean and its natural extensions. They also stressed that maintaining peace and stability in the Gulf region is the responsibility of the Gulf states without any foreign interference.

The president of Bangladesh welcomed the establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council and expressed his wish for the continued success of the council in realizing its aims.

The two sides stressed the demand for the immediate withdrawal of all Soviet forces form Afganistan, and demanded that suitable conditions be created to enable the people of Afghanistan to freely determine their own destiny without any foreign influence or interference.

The two leaders expressed anxiety over the continuing bloody conflict between Iran and Iraq. They repeated their appeal for a speedy end to the war between the two countries. The two leaders called on both fraternal Islamic states to continue their fraternal cooperation with the attempts of the Islamic Peace Committee which is endeavoring to find a peaceful solution to the conflict.

The two leaders reviewed the international economic situation and expressed their resolve to continue to work together to establish a new international economic system. They reaffirmed their determination to realize the aims of the Cancun conference, to work to encourage the start of international negotiations and meetings, and to realize the new realistic program of the less developed states in order to reduce the problems of the South on the basis of the principles of justice and equality.

The two leaders also expressed their determination to concentrate on consolidating economic cooperation among developing countries with the aim of establishing a new international economic system.

President Justice Abdus Sattar outlined the current situation in South Asia in general and in Bangladesh in particular to his Majesty King Khalid. He also briefly pointed out attempts and initiatives by Bangladesh and himself to improve and consolidate relations with neighboring states by of effective economic, social and cultural cooperation. In this connection he also referred to the proposal by the late president on regional cooperation. The president of Bangladesh also mentioned his country's attempts to solve all pending problems with its neighbors. His Majesty King Khalid expressed his deep appreciation of endeavors by Bangladesh to consolidate peace, cooperation and good relations between the states of the region. His excellency the president of Bangladesh briefly outlined to His Majesty King Khalid the aims of the second 5-year development plan for 1980-85, and expressed his government's deep appreciation for the valuable cooperation and assistance given by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the realization of the plan's targets. His Majesty King King Khalid praised attempts by Bangladesh to realize the plan in order to deveop the economy and improve the prosperity of the people of Bangladesh.

The two leaders reviewed bilateral relations and expressed satisfaction with the advanced level of the achievements in this field. They repeated their resolve to develop economic, scientific, cultural and educational cooperation.

His excellency the president of Bangladesh renewed the invitation to His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to visit Bangladesh, an invitation which was extended to him by the late President Ziaur Rahman. His majesty reaffirmed the acceptance of this invitation and expressed his desire to visit Bangladesh at a date to be arranged.

Prior to the start of the official talks, his excellency the president of Bangladesh visited holy Mecca to perform the little pilgrimage! He went to Medinah after the conclusion of the official talks to visit the prophet's mosque and to perform prayers.

His excellency and his delegation left Medinah Dacca on Tuesday, 29 December 1981, following the farewell ceremonies, which expressed amity and fraternity.

UAE

PRESIDENT ADDRESSES NATIONAL COUNCIL SESSION

GF281826 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 28 Dec 81

["Text" of speech by UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan at the opening session of the Federal National Council on 28 December 1981, read on his behalf by Health Minister Hamid ibn 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Midfa' -- recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Brother members of the National Council, honorable guests. With God's support and guidance, we open a new legislative course for your honorable assembly. It pleases me and my brothers, the members of the UAE Supreme Council, to congratulate you on the confidence you have won in having the honor of becoming members of the National Council and representing the UAE people.

No doubt, you know the grave responsibility and the importance of your constructive role in faithfully and sincerely expressing the aspirations of our people and nation and in actively cooperating with the government for the homeland's general good and its people's happiness.

Brothers, through the federation our people have been able to overcome all difficulties and obstacles resulting from the division, discord and backwardness imposed on us before the establishment of the federation. With God's help, the determination of our citizens, and the ethics of their leaders, our people have managed to pioneer a federal experiment in the Arab world.

The past 10 years of the union have revealed the federation's ability to achieve construction, stability and progress. Everyone realizes the union's role in our country's achievements. The amount of fertile land has been increased, many industrial projects and modern establishments have been started, roads have been built and services to improve living conditions and ensure a better life for all citizens have been implemented.

The UAE has completed the establishment of its institutions, drawn up legislation and used all its capabilities and resources to achieve progress. The UAE has occupied its suitable position in the international community and has actively participated in strengthening cooperation with fraternal countries in the Gulf. It has also supported Arab and Islamic issues and has defended the principles of peace and justice. We achieved these goals and hopes through our federation. The federation is stronger, and its progress has been consolidated. It is a serious step toward pan-Arab unity. To achieve this goal, the establishment of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] was announced last May to strengthen cooperation among Arab countries in the Gulf and to achieve coordination and integration in all sectors so as to serve the interests and common goals of their peoples.

The Gulf countries have announced that the preservation of Gulf security and stability is the responsibility of the peoples and governments of the Gulf. These countries have announced their rejection of any foreign interference in their affairs and their desire to deep the area away from international disputes so it will remain an area of peace and so its peoples can carry out their development plans, participate actively in the international community and ensure economic stability and international prosperity.

We view the establishment of the GCC as vital for the member countries. This is not an axis or a bloc aimed against anyone. It is a vital start for reinforcing cooperation among the Gulf countries so they can defend themselves, unify their ranks, ensure their common interests and achieve their national aspirations in order to strengthen the bases of stability and progress for all area peoples. We also want the GCC to serve as a good example for comprehensive Arab cooperation, to be a support for the Arab Leaque and the principles of its charter, a continuous support for joint Arab action in various fields and a genuine support for the just Arab issues.

We want the GCC to strengthen Arab and Islamic solidarity in the face of the basic danger that threatens the area and the whole world, namely Zionist aggression. This continuous aggression against Arab territory, which is represented by the usurpation of the historic rights of the Arab countries and the violation of UN resolutions, has endangered international peace and security in the area. Therefore, we call on the superpowers and friendly peace-loving countries to uphold justice and direct their attention toward a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian problem. This solution must be based on guaranteeing their independent state on their national soil. It must also work toward the withdrawal of aggressive Israeli forces from occupied Arab territories and the abrogation of all measures and violations undertaken by the Israeli authorities in the usurped Arab territories in southern Lebanon, the Golan Heights and Arab Jerusalem in order to remove the causes of international tension in the area.

While we call on the international community and friendly countries to uphold justice in the face of Israeli aggression and obduracy, we ourselves are also required -- more than ever -- to put aside all differences among Arab countries, restore solidarity and unify ranks to confront the Zionist conspiracies and the resulting grave dangers that threaten the entire Arab world.

The UAE will use all its capabilities to achieve Arab solidarity and reinforce joint Arab action, since that is the basic cornerstone for defending the national interests of the Arab world. We also look forward to the day when the war between Iraq and Iran will end, so that peace will be restored between the two countries in accordance with the principles of brotherhood, Islam and neighborliness and respect for everyone's legitimate rights. Then all capabilities can be directed against the enemies of Arabism and Islam in order to achieve whatever is best for all mankind.

Brother members of the National Council, the international situation around us and the challenges that face us oblige us to act responsibily, seriously and sincerely to meet the hopes of our peoples and glorious nation.

We start a new stage in national work today. I would like to review with you some of the things we look forward to achieving in the next stage.

First, we have to move fast and continue the projects we started in the field of production and services in order to achieve comprehensive progress for the country. We also have to alleviate the difficulties of life, provide a better life for all citizens, prepare all plans to ensure the needs of the country, diversify the sources of national income, establish and support national institutions and encourage the private sector to carry out its role in national development so that prosperity will prevail throughout the country.

Second, we must unite to protect all our achievements. This can be done by consolidating internal security in the country, since the security of the state is the security of the citizens and the country. We must also work to protect our internal front against subversive currents and tendentious ideas in addition to fighting corruption in all its forms so as to be in line with what the Almight said: "And let there be among you a body of men who should invite to goodness and enjoy equity and forbid evil." [Koranic verse]

Third, we must deepen the concept of sound democracy, encourage constructive dialogue and give our youth the opportunity to play a creative role, use their energies and actively participate in shouldering responsibility within a framework of commitment to society's values. We must also make use of previous experiences and lessons.

Fourth, we have to adhere more to Islamic canon law teachings and Islamic principles and manage our affairs in accordance with God's guidance and the teachings of his prophet, may God have peace on him, in accordance with God's words: "Fulfill your covenant with me and I will fulfill my covenant with you" and "if you help the cause of God, he will help you and make your steps firm." Koranic verse]

Fifth, we have to work in the Gulf in various fields by achieving joint Arab action, expanding cooperation with the Islamic world and supporting the just international issues in accordance with the principles of peace and justice in order to achieve whatever is good for humanity as a whole.

Brother members, we look forward to a shining future based on strength, justice, unity, solidarity and brotherhood, and its slogan is to achieve good and peace. We ask God to lead us in the proper path and help us do whatever is good. "And say work and God will surely see your work and also his messenger and the believers." [Koranic verse] God's peace and benedictions be upon you.

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES -- The UAE Government spent Dh 729 million on development projects in the first 9 months of 1981 out of a total allocation of Dh 2,556 [figure as printed] according to a Planning Ministry report. Reviewing the projects, the report said that Dh 215 million were spent on educational programs, Dh 142 million on water and electricity projects, Dh 130 million on public works and housing, Dh 108 million for communications projects, Dh 84 million for the Ministry of Interior and Dh 50 million for health services. The report added that the Ministry of Information and Culture spent Dh 8.3 million on various projects out of an allocation of Dh 25 million for the whole year. The projects completed so far is the first stage of the new building for the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY, which cost Dh 1.5 million. [Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 26 Dec 81 p 3 GF]

DUBAI ALUMINUM PRODUCTION -- The Dubai Aluminum Company's production in 1981 was approximately 105,000 tons compared with 23,000 tons in 1980. The Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry statistics indicate that during the first half of 1981, Dubai exported 36,900 tons of aluminum worth 207.7 million dirhams. It imported 4,000 tons, which cost 42 million dirhams. [Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 29 Dec 81 p1 GF]

NEW ENVOY TO BELGIUM -- Resident Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan today issued a decree appointing 'Isa Khalfan Huraymi, the minister plenipotentiary in the Foreign Ministry Secretariat, as minister plenipotentiary to Belgium. [Text] [Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 14 Dec 81 GF]

PDRY

'ALI NASIR REPORTS ON RECENT VISIT TO DJIBOUTI

EA201530 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Dec 81

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, the secretary general of the Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Assembly, and his delegation returned to Aden today from Djibouti, having concluded a 3-day friendly and official visit to the Republic of Djibouti. They were received at Aden Airport by a number of brother members of the Political Bureau and Central Committee and ministers. Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad left Djibouti at 1145 today.

He was accorded an official send off at Djibouti Airport. Those who saw him off included President Hassan Gouled; Prime Minister Barkat Gourad Hamadou; President of the National Assembly Abdulkader Waberi; ministers, senior officials of the Republic of Djibouti and members of the Yemeni community and our embassy in Djibouti. Shortly before Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's departure this morning, a number of documents were signed at the Republican Palace on the development of cooperation between the two brotherly countries, including an agreement on trade cooperation signed on behalf of Yemen by the minister of trade and supply, Brother Ahmad 'Ubayd al-Fadli, and on behalf of Djibouti by the minister of works and acting minister of commerce, Bourhan Ali Warki; and an agreement on cultural and technical cooperation signed for Democratic Yemen by Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, Central Committee member and foreign minister, and for Djibouti by Moumin Bahdon Farah, the foreign minister.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and al-Haj Has'an Gouled also signed a joint communique on this visit. Here is the text:

At the invitation of Brother President Hassan Gouled Apidon, president of the Republic of Djibouti, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Assembly and of the Council of Ministers, paid an official and fraternal visit to the Republic of Djibouti at the head of a high-level government delegation from 16 to 18 December 1981.

The brother secretary general, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, and his delegation were accorded an official and popular reception which expressed the depth of the fraternal relations between the two brotherly peoples of Democratic Yemen and Djibouti.

Official discussions took place between the two presidents in a cordial and fraternal atmosphere. They dealt with bilateral relations and ways of strengthening and developing them. The two presidents also discussed political developments in the Arab and international arenas and a number (?of issues of) common interest.

Brother Salim Salih Muhammad, member of the Central Committee and foreign minister; 'Ali Asad Muthanna, member of the Central Committee, secretary of the Central Committee and director of the Office of the Secretary General; Muhammad Aboullah al-Batani, candidate member of the Central Committee and interior minister; Ahmad 'Ubayd al-Fadli, minister of trade and supply; 'Abd al-Wahid Fari, director of the Arab Homeland Department at the Foreign Ministry; Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman Bishr, aide for political and foreign affairs at the Office of the Secretary General and Awad Salim Baabad, charge d'affaires of the Embassy of Democratic Yemen in the Republic of Djibouti, participated in these discussions on the Yemeni side.

Participating on the side of the Republic of Djibouti were Brothers Barkat Gourad Hammadou, prime minister and minister of port affairs; Moumin Bahdon Farah, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; Idriss Farah Abaneh, minister of interior; Bourhan Ali Warki, minister of public works; (Ismail Jibril), director of the Office of the President of the Republic; Tahir Jama Robleh, director of the Foreign Ministry; Rashid Farah Ahmad, head of the bilateral relations section at the Foreign Ministry; and Tahir Ali Wais, counsellor at the Foreign Ministry.

During the discussion, the Djibouti side briefed the Yemeni side on the achievements and gains of the Djibouti people in various political, economic and social fields. The Yemeni side expressed its gratification at those achievements of the Djibouti people at various levels. The Djibouti side also expressed its appreciation for the experiences of Democratic Yemen's revolution, led by the YSP, and of the revolutionary changes it is bringing about in various sectors.

Reviewing bilateral relations, the two sides expressed their profound gratification at the level these reached. They also agreed to develop them in the interests of the two brotherly peoples.

Both sides attached great importance to the expansion of the volume of trade. They concluded a trade agreement for facilitating the exchange of local products between the two brotherly countries. They also signed an agreement on cultural cooperation with the aim of strengthening the brotherly ties between the two brotherly peoples.

Both sides stressed that the achievement by peaceful and democratic means of the unity of the Yemeni people as regards land and people responds to the national interests of the Yemenis and their progress and prosperity, and will bring about security and stability in the region. Yemeni unity also constitutes and important step towards the unity of the Arab nation and an effective force in the just pan-Arab struggle of the peoples of our Arab nation.

The two sides also reviewed the situation in the Arabian Gulf, Indian Ocean and Red Sea. They demanded that these areas be zones of security, peace and stability. They supported all efforts to preserve security and stability in the region.

Both sides expressed concern over the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war and the great threat it poses to the material and military potential of the two brotherly Muslim peoples, and said its continuation will eventually serve only the aims of Zionism and the enemies of the Arab and Islamic nation, justifying their intervention in the region. They expressed their support for efforts to settle the dispute by peaceful means.

On another level, both sides showed special interest in the current situation in the Arab region and stressed their firm and principled stand in favor of the Palestinian people in their struggle to restore their full legitimate rights and establish an independent, national state on national soil under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

The two sides renewed their condemnation of the treasonous Camp David accords, which contradict the firm and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people. They also condemned the Israeli-American strategic alliance, regarding that alliance as a new threat to the entire Arab nation.

Both sides also condemned the repeated acts of Israeli aggression against Lebanese territroy and Zionist plans to undermine the sovereignty of Lebanon, fragmenting it and creating denominational entities linked to the Zionist entity. The two sides stressed the territorial integrity of Lebanon and its Arabism.

Both sides also strongly condemned the unlawful decision by the Zionist enemy to annex the occupied Syrian Golan area. They appealed to the international community to stand against this Israeli measure, which contravenes international law and UN resolutions.

Both sides also condemned aggressive American threats against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Both sides also stressed their support for the right of the Saharan people to self-determination in accordance with OAU resolutions.

On the Horn of Africa, both sides stressed the importance of securing peace and stability there and creating relations of cooperation among the countries of the region on the basis of neighborliness, respect for national sovereignty and national independence, noninterference in internal affairs, exchange of benefits and the solution of disputes by peaceful means as laid down in the UN and OAU Charters.

Both sides also expressed their appreciation of the aims and principles of the Nonaligned Movement and their deep faith in the effective role being played by this movement in international politics against racism and colonialism in all its forms.

They also stressed their solidarity with the struggle of the liberation movements in Africa, particularly the people of Namibia and South Africa, to put an end to the racist regime. They also condemned the Pretoria regime's aggression against the Republics of Angola and Seychelles.

Both sides stressed the importance of consolidating security and peace in international relations. They also stressed their rejection of the arms race policy and escalation of tension in the world.

The two presidents stressed their concern over the current economic conditions in developing countries. They declared their support for efforts to create a new and just world economic order.

The two sides expressed the importance of the visit by Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his delegation to the Republic of Djibouti, which has contributed to the consolidation of the brotherly relations between the two brotherly peoples and countries.

Brother 'Ali Nasir also expressed his thanks and appreciation to his brother, President Hasan Gouled Apitdon, and to the government and people of the Republic of Djibouti for the profound, friendly and brotherly reception accorded him and his delegation. He extended an invitation to his brother, Hasan Gouled Aptidon, president of the Republic of Djibouti, to visit Democratic Yemen. His excellency accepted this kind invitation. The date will be fixed later.

YAR

IRANIAN CHARGE EXPELLED FOR HANDING OUT LEAFLETS

JN292022 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] A responsible Foreign Ministry source has announced the following:

The Foreign Ministry today asked the Iranian charge d'affaires to leave the country within 48 hours because he was caught distributing leaflets in the streets of San'a'. The Iranian charge d'affaires had been previously summoned to the Foreign Ministry several times and warned against distributing similar leaflets.

A responsible source has stated the YAR will not tolerate any action or attempt to use diplomatic immunity to harm the country's sovereignty and security.

YAR-PDRY COMMITTEE DISCUSSES UNITY CONSTITUTION

JN262026 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Dec 81

[Text] The joint constitutional committee formed by the two parts of the homeland held the first meeting of its 13th session at its offices in San'a'. The northern side was headed by Husayn al-Hubayshi, minister of state and legal adviser to the presidency and the Cabinet, and the southern side by Brother 'Abdallah Ahmad Ghanim, secretary of the Supreme People's Council Presidium.

During this meeting, the committee discussed the subject of dividing the unity draft constitution articles by chapter. The committee will continue its meetings in this session to complete drafting the constitution of the unitary state.

AS-SADAT TRIAL DEFENSE LAWYERS WITHDRAW

NC291654 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] The Higher Military Court held a session today to continue considering the case of the assassination of the departed leader [Anwar as-Sadat]. The lawyers defending the No 1 defendant, Khalid Ahmad Shawqi al-Islambuli, continued their pleadings that the articles incriminating the defendants are unconstitutional. They insisted that the court stop considering the case until the unconstitutionality issue has been brought before the Higher Constitutional Court.

Following deliberations, the court decided to reject the unconstitutionality pleadings as invalid. Consequently, the lawyers withdrew from the hall in protest against the court's decision, despite the fact that the defense had earlier authorized the court to rule on whether the pleading was valid.

At the end of the session, the court decided to fine the lawyers 50 pounds each because they withdrew and refrained from defending the defendants without any acceptable reason or justification.

The court also decided to postpone considering the case until 5 January. It ordered that the withdrawing lawyers turn over the copies of the case that had been given to them to the military prosecutor general by 0900 tomorrow, that the prosecution assign other lawyers to undertake the defendants' defense and that the Lawyers Association be informed of the behavior of the lawyers at today's session so that it can look into their case and take legal measures against them.

Further on Withdrawal

NC291708 Paris AFP in English 1654 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 29 Dec (AFP) -- The trail of 24 people charged with involvement in the assassination of the Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat has been adjourned until January 5, defense attorney 'Abd al-Halim Ramadan announced today.

The postponement followed an earlier announcement today that all defense lawyers for the 24 were withdrawing from the trial due to the court's refusal to hold it in public and failure to allow certain witnesses to appear. Speaking at a press conference, Mr Ramadan, who represents Lt Khalid Islambuli, the number one accused, said that the defendants had backed the lawyers' move to withdraw in protest from the trial, which opened at the upper military court here on November 21.

Mr as-Sadat died in a hail of bullets when a commando opened fire on him at a Cairo military parade on October 6. The defendants face the death penalty if convicted.

Defense attorneys had called for Mr as-Sadat's widow Jihan, former Foreign Minister Isma'il Fahmi, former editor-in-chief of the semi-official [newspaper AL-AHRAM] and confidant of Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir Hasanayn Haykal, and fundamentalist MP Shaykh Salah Abu Isma'il to testify at the trail.

Meanwhile, President Husni Mubarak today refused to see 20 defense attorneys who went to his residence to explain their protest. One lawyer questioned the judges' "impartiality," adding that the 24 defendants would refuse court-appointed lawyers.

Legal proceedings normally provide for the replacement of the defense lawyers who withdrew in protest today by court-appointed lawyers named by the Egyptian order of lawyers.

If the defendants reject them, the court would renew its request to the order of lawyers for a new team of appointed defense lawyers. The trial could then continue even if the second group of appointed lawyers were rejected.

Observers said the withdrawal today of the lawyers was a bid to gain time. One withdrawing lawyer later admitted he would attend the trial despite the court's refusal to accept the lawyers' demands. Any time gained, observers said, would aid some of the 24 defendants as public opinion gradually cooled off and Mr as-Sadat's regime was challenged.

U.S. STATEMENT ON ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL NOTED

NC291728 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] U.S. and Israeli officials today stated that a responsible U.S. representative has told Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir that no one in the U.S. Government believes that Israel should withdraw from the occupied Arab territories to the pre-June 1967 borders. Although the U.S. representative's name was not mentioned, the Israeli foreign minister yesterday held a meeting with U.S. Senator Charles Percy, chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee. The meeting was attended by the U.S. ambassador in Tel Aviv.

Percy refused to visit the occupied Syrian Golan Heights and the occupied West Bank during his helicopter tour of a number of Israeli towns. An Israeli source has stated that the leakage of this information can be regarded as the first sign of improvement in U.S.-Israeli relations in the wake of Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights.

Meanwhile, Israeli radio today said that at the instructions of Yitzhaq Shamir the Israeli Foreign Ministry director is currently on a secret mission in the United States and a number of European countries, notably Britain and France, in an attempt to improve U.S.-Israeli relations.

CAIRO PRESS CRITICIZES U.S. ATTITUDE ON ISRAEL

NC292312 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2212 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 29 Dec (MENA) -- The Cairo newspapers that will be published tomorrow, Wednesday, denounce the hesitation in U.S. policy toward Israel following its annexation of the Syrian Golan Heights. The papers say that the relations between the United States and Israel are characterized by perplexing phenomena and quick, puzzling changes, and that no one can any more explain the intriguing contradictions in its positions.

The papers say that after Israel canceled the joint strategic cooperation agreement between it and the United States, the United States began following a flexible policy. The Israeli decision to cancel the agreement appeared as though Tel Aviv were punishing the United States for suspending the agreement.

In this regard, the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH calls on the United States to adopt a firm policy toward the Israeli decision to annex the Golan Heights that does not stop at freezing the agreement or suspending the delivery of weapons but goes beyond that to joining the international community in what measures it will take against any party that violates international conventions and takes over the land of others as war spoils.

The paper adds in its commentary that logic demands that Reagan's decision to freeze the agreement should be followed by other measures that will make Israel realize that the annexation of the land of others is inconsistent with the peace process which the United States wants to be continued in the Middle East and in which it is acting as a full partner in order to achieve peace.

Under the headline "A Crisis of Normalization," AL-AHRAM says: It appeared from the Israeli decision to cancel the agreement that Tel Aviv was the one that was punishing the United States for suspending the agreement.

The paper says that instead of a stronger reaction on the part of Washington toward this unilateral decision, Washington began a chapter of flexibility. Secretary of State Haig announced that the United States did not want to increase the tension with Israel. Kirkpatrick, the U.S. representative at the United Nations, announced that her government will not approve the imposition of sanctions on Israel by the Secutiry Council.

The paper also notes President Reagan's announcement that the agreement still exists despite its cancellation by Israel and that the U.S. decision to suspend the agreement will soon be rescinded.

Concluding its article, the paper expresses surprise that the Golan crisis has been turned far from the original subject to attempts to normalize the relations between the United States and Israel.

OPPOSITION LEADER URGES DISSOLUTION OF ASSEMBLY

PM291115 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 21 Dec 81 p 1

[Fayiz Zayid report: "Labor Party Urges Dissolution of People's Assembly"]

[Text] Labor Party leader Engineer Ibrahim Shukri has stated that the People's Assembly should be dissolved and new elections held so that the state can be reorganized in the wake of President Mubarak's assumption of power.

Speaking at the weekly party seminar last Tuesday, the Labor Party leader called for an end to the state of emergency, which, he said, has affected national income from tourism. He also said that hypocritical elements in positions of leadership should be changed and removed from their important posts to open the way for sincere people who can set an example to others.

Engineer Ibrahim Shukri emphasized that government departments do not understand the principles put forward by President Husni Mubarak and do not implement them well.

Hamid Zaydan, member of the party's Higher Executive Committee, criticized some of the chief editors of national newspapers who devote their pens to the defense of their positions without defending the people's rights and interests.

SUNA INTERVIEWS OPPOSITION PARTY LEADER SHUKRI

JN271853 Khartoum SUNA in English 1715 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] Cairo, 27 Dec (SUNA) -- Al-'Amal opposition party leader Ibrahim Shukri said in a statement to SUDAN NEWS AGENCY (SUNA) that he would not answer any invitation to visit Israel because Israel does not adopt the right path for the establishment of a durable and comprehensive peace in the area.

I refuse any meeting with the Israeli parties leaders, said the Egyptian party leader, because they share nonrecognition of the Palestinian people's right to establish their own state.

The Egyptian leader added that the text of integration reached by the political leadership of the two countries was the best [that] could [be] reached in those circumstances being passed by the two countries, though it was noted, said Mr. Shukri, that the integration projects had not yet found the adequate push to be fruitful because of the shortage in the credits allocation to the integration projects.

Shukri further called for supplying the projects of infrastructure to link Sudan with Egypt by ways, and telecommunications, besides boosting the economic activities of the public sector in the two countries.

Shukri also expressed support for the establishment of the joint development bank between Sudan and Egypt for the financing of joint projects and the working for the overcoming of routine proceeding of the different committees in integration projects to the scene of popular action.

He said that integration is not only planned for Sudan or the integration area, but it was a more wide conception of the joint benefit of peoples of the Nile Valley.

Shukri told (SUNA) that his party, which gained 34 percent in the elections of 1979, comprises no [more] than 200 thousand persons in its membership.

After the progress of differences with the ruling party last September, Shukri said the party had stopped operation of the members registration for the avoidance of harm against the party's members and that the government would not take measures against them.

The party run paper THE PEOPLE will appear within the coming few weeks under the name (VOICE OF THE PEOPLE) -- or NIDA' ASH-SHA'B (People's Appeal) -- for the reappearance of a confiscated paper under its previous name is forbidden by the law, Shukri said.

In this regard, he indicated the stress made by deputy prime minister for the affairs of people and (Shura) during a latest session of the assembly on the necessity that the opposition should have its own newspapers which had been supported by the assembly's members.

In an answer to a question on the integration between Sudan and Egypt, the Egyptian leader said that it was time for Sudan and Egypt to offer a unique model for the integration between the two countries in the different levels based on brotherhood and love, for the interest of the peoples of the Nile Valley.

AL-MAJALLAH INTERVIEWS JOURNALIST HAYKAL

PM171139 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 12-18 Dec 81 pp 8-10

[Unattributed interview with journalist Muhammad Hasanayn Haykal in Cairo: "The Police Arrested me in a Semimilitary Operation and the President Released me" -- presumably 26 November]

[Text] [Question] Twenty-four hours after the decision to release you, emotions have perhaps subsided and we can ask you about the effects of this decision not only on you personally but on political practices at the domestic and foreign levels.

[Answer] First of all there was no emotional excitement because the release decision had been expected. President Mubarak had instructed that the investigations be speeded up and, after meeting with the brothers, members of the Labor and National Grouping Parties and the independents, he announced that the investigations would be completed quickly and that those not found guilty would be released. When I was interrogated by the socialist public prosecutor -- I was among the last to be interrogated -- it was clear that he did not want to prolong the issue and he told me that he would conduct the investigations with the conscience of a judge, and he kept his word. The investigations proved that the measures were taken in a moment of anger, that most of those detained had nothing to do with the problem and that there was no justification for what happened.

As for the effect of this decision, it would be partial of me to venture an opinion because I am one of those released, but I am certain that this decision has led to some kind of relaxation in Egyptian politics. It is as beneficial as the arrest decision was harmful.

[Question] What do you mean by a relaxation in Egyptian politics as a result of this decision?

[Answer] It may surprise you to know that I have given 20 interviews to world radios, not to mention the interviews I have granted to newspapers, and only 24 hours have passed since my release. What is happening in Egypt is very important to the world. Nobody denies that Egypt is the key to the Arab world, which is one of the most important regions of the globe. The world is interested in what happens there. To show you how effective this decision is, I say that it was I who attacked the centers of power in the days of 'Abd an-Nasir and wrote about the dawn callers and criticized some excesses. I was myself arrested at 0215 one morning. I asked the officer in charge: Have we returned to the dawn calls again? I was arrested in a semimilitary operation and the same applies to Dr Hilmi Murad, Fu'ad Siraj ad-Din and Fathi Radwan. However, we were all invited later to the presidential palace and we were released by a presidential order. Does this not mean something? Each one of us who was detained had played a role in Egypt's history. Fu'ad Siraj ad-Din represents a current, Hilmi Murad represents a legitimate party and Fathi Radwan and I are symbols each representing a current in Egypt. Does not the fact that we were released by the presidential palace on the orders of the president of the republic have some significance as far as public opinion is concerned? We were arrested at night and were released in broad daylight. We were detained by the police and released by the president of the republic. Is this not sufficient?

[Question] Some Arab newspapers have reported that when you were in detention you sent President Mubarak a letter of support immediately after he assumed power. What does this mean, and what did you say in your letter?

[Answer] I did not send any letters. On the contrary, I believed, and still do, that any words said from behind bars would be tainted, for both of us. For me they would be looked upon as a sign of weakness, and as far as he is concerned they would be interpreted as an indication of duress. Such words would be of no use to either of us. I did not send any letters from prison. I contemplated writing only once. I began writing a telegram to his son congratulating him on his birthday, but then I changed by mind because I was certain it would never reach him.

[Question] One of your fellow detainees has said that every day you received a red rose from your wife. Does this mean that you were given special treatment?

[Answer] Of course not. Like the others, I received a basket of food daily, and my wife used to put a red rose on top of it. We were allowed anything that was not prohibited. This happened in the last week of October when the socialist prosecutor allowed us to have a basket of food daily from our homes instead of the prison food which we were eating until then.

I have promised the socialist prosecutor that I would never talk about this experience, and I want to keep all my promises. President Mubarak has asked us to turn a new page. I want to start a new page and I want to leave that experience alone, as the president requested.

[Question] Did you receive any daily newspapers, or were they not allowed?

[Answer] We were only allowed newspapers from 1 November onward. We did not receive any newspapers or listen to the radio before that date.

[Question] When did you learn about President as-Sadat's assassination?

[Answer] I was told in prison on the morning of 7 October. I was moved by the news. In the face of death only the positive aspects remain. President as-Sadat and I were friends for 20 years. We had some disagreement in the last 5 years, since the disengagement [agreement with Israel]. Whatever our disagreements were, I never felt any hatred or enmity toward him. I did not write one word to hurt him personally. After he arrested me, President as-Sadat charged that I did not fast during Ramadan, that I was a friend of presidents, that I wrote against him to hurt him personally and what I said that the Camp David accords had reached a deadlock. I wonder, how could As-Sadat say that I did not fast during Ramadan and that I was an atheist. My religion is a matter between me and God. Nobody has a right to be a witness to it. As for my being a friend of presidents, I do not consider it a crime but rather an honor for me as a professional journalist. I only express my personal views. I have proved that I do have my own views. They may be wrong, but it is not a matter of position. I left the biggest press establishment in Egypt and the Arab world because I believed in what I said. President as-Sadat later offered me more than one post, including the post of deputy prime minister. I told him then: How can I accept this offer when people know that I disagree with you? If I agree and then voice the opinion of the state I would be a hypocrite, and if I express my own opinion you would expel me. He asked me to return to AL-AHRAM provided I committed myself, but I refused because I refuse to vacate my place with one decision and reoccupy it with another decision, because anyone who accepts this does not deserve to be a writer and chief editor. It was President as-Sadat's right to expel me from my post, but my return to that same post or not is my decision and my right alone.

[Question] Are there any new posts awaiting you, or will you return to journalism in Egypt?

[Answer] There is nothing except the position of a writer with pen and paper. I am only a journalist, not a party to the Egyptian press game under any circumstances. The world press is open to me while I am here in Egypt. I write for THE [London] TIMES and SUNDAY TIMES. Last year I wrote for the New York TIMES while I was here in Egypt. This is because I cling to my country. It might be a good thing for an Arab journalist to have some weight in the Arab world while retaining his own original position. There is nothing I would not do for Egypt. I say, however, that I am not a party to the Egyptian press game. What I see of its makes me wish it success and makes me want to stay away from it.

[Question] In the past you opposed President as-Sadat's decisions. The Camp David treaty was one of the most important things your opposed. President Mubarak has assumed power and has announced that he abides by the treaty. You have now told the world press that you wholeheartedly support President Mubarak. Where is the common factor in this?

[Answer] I have expressed my full support for President Husni Mubarak. What I have said is very clear. President Mubarak said: "Let us turn a new page," and "leave me freedom of action." Therefore, he must have freedom of action. I do not allow myself to be a party to any pressure on him.

President Mubarak did not have to say more than he did. I am not under any illusions and I am not a dreamer. I know enough about politics not to dream. I do know Husni Mubarak. He is a patriot and he is sincere and faithful in what he says. I may agree or disagree with him, but I respect what he says and I give him a chance. At any rate I am a journalist watching events. Furthermore, how can we ask the new president, midway through the wager made by President as-Sadat, to abandon it. It is his duty to carry it through to the end so as to find out for himself. He deserves a chance.

[Question] If President Mubarak invites you to a working session for Egypt, what would you say?

[Answer] Only he has a right to my answer to this question, because of the historic responsibility he is shouldering.

[Question] How do you see the future of the press in Egypt?

[Answer] Please allow me not to answer this question. My best wishes for success for the press.

[Question] How do you see the future of political life in Egypt?

[Answer] Unquestionably we are approaching an extremely serious and important stage in Egyptian history. Politics is contemporary history or history in the making. We are heading for a highly active phase, at home and abroad.

[Question] What about the relations between Egypt and the Arab world?

[Answer] All I have is a prayer for Egypt in the Arab world or Egypt and the Arab world. There is no full Egyptian role without the rest of the Arab world, and the Arab world is not complete without Egypt. This is the prime issue. Without an at least cohesive Arab world there is no hope for this region.

BRIEFS

EXPLOITATION OF GOLD RESOURCES -- Cairo, 29 Dec (MENA) -- AL-AHRAM says today that Egypt will resume the exploitation of its gold resources now that its scientists have returned from the United States armed with a new scientific method to extract gold at a cost that is 60 percent less than previous methods AL-AHRAM adds that the geologists' calculations have confirmed that gold worth 450 million pounds has been found in only one of the 99 mines that constitute Egypt's entire gold reserves. [Cairo MENA in Arabic 0705 GMT 29 Dec 81 NC]

SADDAM CHAIRS CABINET MEETING, REMARKS ON IRAN

JN291555 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1356 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Dec (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn has said that the aim of the Iranian rulers in launching and continuing their aggression against Iraq is to destroy its growing construction movement. At an expanded Cabinet meeting he chaired here today, President Husayn added that the Zionist entity is endeavoring with all means available to find a way to halt our development and that the Iranian rulers are working in Israel's stead to the same end. He described most of the Iranian rulers as puppets in the hands of Zionism and others headed by the United States. The president asserted that the Iranian rulers and the Zionists will not be able to break the Iraqi spirit or tarnish Iraq's dignity, honor and development.

The president also said that the Iraqi leadership regards the development process and the emphasis laid on construction as important as steadfastness in the frontline trenches. He stressed that the continued zeal of the Iraqis and their rush toward the front manifest the spirit of construction and uphold the historical significance and the practical and psychological results of this spirit. Internal development and enthusiasm to achieve goals and implement plans have become as important as the spirit of fighting, the president further said.

The Cabinet discussed the general budget and investment and import programs for the coming year. The meeting was attended by Revolution Command Council [RCC] Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim, Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, National Assembly Speaker Na'im Haddad, RCC members and a number of experts and specialists.

UN REPRESENTATIVE ON IRAN'S EXECUTION OF POW'S

JN292116 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2005 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] United Nations, 29 Dec (INA) -- Salah 'Umar al-'Ali, Iraq's permanent UN representative, has asked the UN secretary general to circulate among the UN Security Council and General Assembly members Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi's letter on the Iranian regime's criminal execution of Iraqi POW's, and to consider this letter a UN document.

The foreign minister's letter stressed that the execution of Iraqi POW's by the Iranian regime is a violation of international laws and conventions, particularly the 1949 Geneva convention on the treatment of POW's, and constitutes a deplorable crime against the international community's humanitarian values. The letter also said that by this act, the Iranian authorities have recorded in their annals another violation of international law, among them, the unleashing of war against Iraq. The letter pointed out that the Iraqi Government reserves the right to use all means to guarantee its vital interests and calls on the international community not only to condemn this intransigent regime but to work toward halting its continued crimes against human values.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE NO 568

JN291704 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] During the past 24 hours, the Iraqi forces inflicted on the Iranian forces heavy human and material losses, with known losses amounting to 188 killed and 9 vehicles, 1 stockpile of hardware and 2 observation posts destroyed. Communique No 568 issued this evening by the Armed Forces General Command point out that our losses were 18 martyrs in all sectors, and 1 mortar and 1 rocket launcher damaged. Following is the text of Communique No 568 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With an iron will and high spirit, the sons of Iraq and the Arab nation are continuing to fight the treacherous Persian enemy. Results of combat activities in the operational sectors for last night and today are as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. One of our valiant units clashed with an enemy force in the Sumar region, and a fierce battle ensued in which all kinds of weapons were used. During the battle, the enemy suffered great losses, with known losses mounting to 152 killed and a large number wounded.
B. One of our forward units pounded an enemy force in front of our forces in the Iranian area facing Panjwin and killed 19.
C. Seven were killed and one vehicle loaded with arms and one observation post in Khafajiyah [Susangerd] were destroyed.
D. Four were killed in Shush region.
E. Three were killed and eight vehicles and one observation post were destroyed in the Abadan region.
F. Three were killed in the Mehran region.

Thus, total known enemy losses amounted to 188 killed and 9 vehicles, 1 stockpile of hardware and 2 observation posts destroyed.

II. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 18 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: One mortar and one rocket launcher damaged.

IRANIANS SUSTAIN LOSSES IN SAR-E POL-E ZAHAB

JN300825 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0810 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Dec (INA) -- A press report published here today said that the Iraqi Armed Forces have attacked enemy concentrations and positions in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area, forcing the enemy forces to give up their positions following a fiery battle at which all types of weapons were used. The report added that 120 Iranians were killed, a number of positions were destroyed and large quantities of arms and hardware were seized.

The press report pointed out that a short, sharp battle raged in the Mimak area last night at which light weapons and artillery were used. The report said that the enemy forces were compelled to retreat, leaving behind 64 dead, whose bodies still litter the battlefield. Also, a large number of enemy personnel were wounded and military commander at the front said that one obervation post was destroyed.

OMAN'S AZ-ZAWAWI MEETS HUSAYN, DEPARTS AMMAN

JN291459 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1443 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Amman, 29 Dec (PETRA) -- Qays az-Zawawi, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, left Amman this afternoon after a 2-day official visit to Jordan during which he delivered a letter to His Majesty King Husayn from His Majesty Sultan Qabus of Oman dealing with the latest developments in the Arab region and with strengthening Arab solidarity under the new circumstances in the region. Az-Zawawi also met with Prime Minister Mudar Badran and a number of senior officials and discussed with them the means to promote fraternal bilateral relations. He was seen off at Amman airport by Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim and the Jordanian ambassador to Oman.

INFORMATION MINISTER REGRETS FRANCE'S STAND

JN291843 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah met at the Society for International Affairs today with a U.S.-French Friendship Society delegation currently visiting Jordan.

Mr Abu 'Awdah asserted that the imbalance prevailing in the region in favor of Israeli military superiority whets Israel's appetite for further expansion. He pointed out that Arab advances toward the world in general, as represented by the United Nations; toward Europe, in its capacity as an important political center; and toward other international organizations seek to rectify the situation between the disputing sides to enable them to reach a balanced peace.

He pointed out that the failure of any of these sides to help in the needed rectification will further exacerbate the situation in the region at the expense of peace and justice.

He added that from this perspective, we regret the French stand as recently manifested by the French Government. He asserted that it is wrong to believe that only the Arabs are threatened by this state of imbalance. Rather, he pointed out, this imbalance will certainly harm international interests in general.

He concluded that with its policy of completely exploiting the state of imbalance to achieve its expansionist schemes, Israel is creating problems for the whole world and not only for the Arabs. He added that Israel is mistaken if it believes that such a situation will continue forever since it may be easy for a state to use its military superiority for purposes of aggression but it is impossible for the other side to accept such an aggression and its continuation.

SECURITY MEASURES AGAINST PALESTINIANS INCREASED

TA291211 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1045 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Jerusalem, 29 Dec -- Travelers who have recently arrived in Jerusalem from Jordan are saying that the Jordanian authorities have over the last few weeks carried out a large number of arrests of Palestinians and Jordanian citizens living in refugee camps and in the cities.

The east Jerusalem paper. AL-FAJR, says that according to the travelers, Jordanian intelligence personnel have raided the homes of educated Palestinians -- mainly lecturers, students and engineers -- conducted searches and confiscated their Palestinian passports. Checkpoints have been established on all major roads and intersections in the Jordanian capital. According to the travelers, such measures have been adopted in view of reports reaching the Jordanian authorities about an increase in the strength of the anti-Hashemite forces in the Jordanian Kingdom.

AL-WAZZAN DISCUSSES AL-JUMAYYIL INITIATIVE

NC291602 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Today Prime Minister al-Wazzan said that the government has adopted a specific stance with regard to the national accord and dialogue. This stance is specified in the 14 principles, on whose basis the government won a vote of confidence.

The prime minister stated this in reply to a question on reports published in some newspapers to the effect that the government's stance with regard to Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil's initiative is the one expressed by Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus. Prime Minister al-Wazzan added: I have no idea which newspapers you are talking about. Every day we read statements by people who are officials as well as those who are not -- including ministers, deputies and others. Every man has a right to express his opinion. As for the government, I believe that so far no one has spoken on its behalf except for one person -- myself, in my capacity as prime minister. This took place when Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil visited me in one of the rooms of the presidential palace. At that time I expressed the government's opinion -- which was clear and frank. By repeating this opinion, this means that the government has adopted the path of national accord and dialogue -- which is in keeping with the 14 principles. These principles were adopted by the Lebanese Government and Cabinet and were announced in the Cabinet statement on whose basis the government won a vote of confidence. For this reason, we are still working on the basis of these principles. Thus, the political working paper which has been submitted to the Arab Followup Committee has incorporated these principles as a starting point for a dialogue and as a basis for solving problems.

The prime minister stated: I take this opportunity to repeat that everyone has to make an effort and submit whatever initiatives he wants to submit -- particularly if these initiatives are intended for various parties. As for the government, the principles it has adopted have already been announced and agreed upon -- and the government is still working on the basis of these principles.

ANTI-SYRIAN, PALESTINIAN FRONT ISSUES COMMUNIQUE

NC300849 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Text] The Front for the Liberation of Lebanon From Syrian-Palestinian Occupation said that its forces on the Al-Minyah-'Akkar-Tripoli-Al-'Abdah axis are fighting battles and clashes every day with the forces of the Syrian-Palestinian occupation. The front affirmed that it killed five Palestinians and, in separate ambushes and clashes, killed and injured a number of Syrian Army soldiers. [The front stated:] The Syrian occupation command, as usual, shrouded their names with secrecy, in the same way it does with the names of those killed and injured in the continual battles with the Syrian revolutionaries. This was contained in the seventh communique that reached our radio station. It was signed by the Central National Committee of the Front for the Liberation of Lebanon From Syrian-Palestinian occupation.

SHAM'UN SETS THREE POINTS FOR ACTION IN 1982

NC291828 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] During a luncheon he held today for leaders of the Lebanese Front, the deputies of the Phalangist and Liberal Parties, the command of the Lebanese Forces and some other personalities, [former] President Camille Sham'un specified three points on the basis of which the front will work next year. These are: ensuring Lebanon's absolute national sovereignty and integrity; liberating Lebanon from all restrictions and from any foreign armed presence; and the front's absolute readiness to enter into bilateral or multilateral negotiations. He said that the front will await the decision of the Arab Followup Committee regarding the right of the Lebanese to live an honorable life in accordance with the Arab League and UN Charters. He said the front will also seek to achieve national unity not only through dialogue among the Lebanese but also through initiatives by the executive authority and the Chamber of Deputies to establish the basis of unity in a final legal form.

IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO ARRIVE 31 DEC

JN291929 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1913 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 29 Dec (SANA) -- An official delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran led by Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati will arrive in Damascus the day after tomorrow.

VIETNAM'S TRAN QUYNH ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

JN281556 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1510 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Damascus, 28 Dec (SANA) -- The SRV has condemned the Israeli enemy's decision to annex the occupied Golan to the Zionist entity, which further confirms the aggressive and expansionist nature of the enemy and its continued violation of the UN Charter and international laws.

Tran Quynh, vice chairman of the Vietnamese Council of Ministers, said this in a statement upon his arrival in Damascus this afternoon. He added that the decision to annex the Golan demonstrates the Zionist aggressive nature violates all values, principles and international norms.

He emphazied that the Zionist enemy would not have undertaken such a measure were it not for the imperialist support for all its aggressive and hostile steps against the Arab nation.

Tran Quynh declared that Vietnam condemns the Zionist enemy's expansionist steps and stressed that his country and all forces that cherish peace, freedom and justice stand with Syria and the Arab nation in the joint struggle against imperialism and Zionism in order to regain the legitimate Arab rights as well as the right of the Palestinian Arab people to their land.

In conclusion, Tran Quynh expressed delight at his visit, describing it as a good opportunity to further bolster and promote friendship, cooperation and the joint struggle with Syria.

The Vietnamese vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and his delegation arrived in Damascus this afternoon on a 1-day visit to Syria. They were welcomed by Antoine Jubran, minister of state for Cabinet affairs; the Vietnamese ambassador in Damascus; and the embassy staff.

IDF RADIO REPORTS ON PERCY'S TOUR OF NORTH

TA291618 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1530 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] An unpleasant incident occurred during the visit of the chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Charles Percy, to the northern border today: He refused to meet Maj Sa'd Haddad -- who was very angry about this -- and also refused to tour southern Lebanon or the Golan Heights. He did, however, tour the northern border settlements and heard about what has been happening on either side of the border from both senior IDF officers and Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir. Here is a report by our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz, who participated in that tour:

[Begin recording] [Horowitz] At 0930 this morning, Senator Percy's helicopter landed near an IDF base in the north. Accompanied by Deputy Foreign Minister Dr Yehuda Ben-Me'ir and senior IDF officers, the guest reached the Lebanese border fence. The head of the Metulla local council, Yosi Goldberg, explained to the guest how the terrorists occupy the Beaufort Castle, shelling Metulla occasionally.

[Goldberg -- in English] They shoot direct to the building here, in this place.

[Percy -- in English] What has been the effect since the cease-fire that Ambassador Habib helped negotiate?

[Horowitz translates Percy's question into Hebrew and continues] The guest's entourage made a stop near one of the outermost houses in Metulla, and Percy astonished his companions by declaring -- and this was heard by the press as well -- that Saudi Arabia played a crucial role in attaining the cease-fire agreement in southern Lebanon.

[Percy -- in English] I will be with the royal family in Saudi Arabia in 10 days, a week, something like that. They were instrumental and used their influence to bring about the cease-fire by the PLO. What should I report to them as to the observance of the cease-fire by the PLO in this particular area at this time now?

[Horowitz translates the above into Hebrew and continues] Percy asked his guests whether the terrorists have been honoring the rules of the cease-fire. A senior IDF northern command officer replied that the terrorists have been strengthening their positions with heavy artillery pieces and with rockets and continue to attack Major Haddad's troops.

[Unidentified officer -- in English] They still continue to attack Haddad's soldiers in their area, and this is not for peace.

[Horowitz] Speaking at a news conference held near the Metulla Good Fence, Senator Percy answered a question on whether or not Saudi Arabia is capable of influencing the cease-fire in southern Lebanon saying:

[Percy -- in English] Obviously, it's extraordinarily difficult to control a group that has so many factions within it, but to the extent that anyone can exercise influence and control, the Saudis have attempted to exert that influence, have committed themselves to the process of the cease-fire.

[Hirowitz translates the above into Hebrew and continues] Knesset member Yehuda Ben-Me'ir denies this:

[Ben-Me'ir] The Saudis have not made any contribution to peace through the cease-fire. As is their wont, the Saudis simply wanted to profit from something that was to have come about anyway. The terrorists very much wanted a cease-fire to save themselves from collapsing and the Saudis suddenly came on the scene in order to appear as peace-makers, so to speak, in the eyes of the United States. To my regret, to an extent they succeeded in that -- as we heard from the senator -- but we certainly do not see it in this light. The senator is to meet the prime minister today and he will undoubtedly explain to him the facts as they really are. The Saudis' role here was marginal, and what led to the cease-fire -- and what maintains it now -- is not the Saudis, but the fact that the terrorists know very well what would happen if they violate the cease-fire. [end recording]

Meeting With Begin

TA291814 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] The meeting between the prime minister and the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Charles Percy, ended a few minutes ago. Three subjects were discussed at the meeting: Lebanon, the annexation of the Golan Heights and the autonomy talks. Following the talks, Charles Percy said that a new leaf had been opened in Israeli-U.S. relations.

This morning Senator Percy was willing to meet with the commander of the Christian militia, Sa'd Haddad, when he visited the Good Fence. However, he was prevented from doing so under pressure of his escorts from the U.S. Embassy. This is reported by our correspondent, Hayim Hecht.

During the visit differences of opinion were revealed between the senator and Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir over Saudi Arabia's part in preserving the cease-fire in southern Lebanon.

Our correspondent, Pnihas 'Inbari, has learned that yesterday Senator Percy met in Jerusalem with three figures from the territories: Ilyas Frayj, the mayor of Bethelem; lawyer 'Aziz Shihadah of Ramallah; and lawyer Hatim Abu Ghazalah of Gaza. In a lengthy talk with the three, Senator Percy reviewed the U.S. stand and heard their positions.

Percy Comments on Meeting

TA291842 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] U.S. Senator Charles Percy has just ended a meeting with Prime Minister Begin in Jerusalem. Alan Ben'Ami reports:

[Begin recording] [Percy -- picking up in midsentence] [word indistinct] of our discussion, the three major areas that we covered in considerable detail as Lebanon and of course I was up there on the borders all day today; the Golan annexation action and all of its repercussions were discussed in great detail; and autonomy and where we go with the subject of full autonomy. And these are the words that were originally proposed by Prime Minister Begin at the Camp David accords -- he re-emphasized full autonomy. So that we had a fine discussion.

And again I would like to pay tribute to our ambassador, who I asked to be with me today because we have worked closely with the executive branch; we have the closest ties -- I think in many, many years, going back to the Vandenberg years -- in bipartisanship and close ties with the executive branch of government and working together, and I have done everything here in this visit with our embassy -- with our consul general here and with our ambassador, for whom I have great regard.

[Ben-'Ami] Senator, you used the word annexation regarding the Golan Heights Law. Was that the word that the prime minister used?

[Percy] No, that's the word that I used. He used the wording that came right from -- and he read the Hebrew declaration that was made in the public section of the Knesset [sentence as heard]. I frankly expressed myself about that issue; I'll not get back into it, I've done that already. I will be issuing a statement tomorrow on my departure, that's all I feel that I should say now. You can ask the prime minister about our meeting, but I can only report that it was a cordial, fine meeting; we came together on many many misunderstandings of the past, and I hope that will characterize the spirit -- the new spirit, the new beginning -- that we're going to make in this special friendship the United States and Israel have had. [end recording]

Ties With U.S. Discussed

TA300601 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer on "Morning Newsreel" program -- recorded]

[Text] The United States will enhance its ties and cooperation with Israel in the future in accordance with Israel's readiness to agree to have the reigonal peace process expanded and its willingness to have other Arab countries join the negotiations. This was understood following the talks held by the chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Charles Percy, with the prime minister, the defense minister and the foreign minister. Charles Percy wound up a series of talks with those personalities last night -- 3 hours of talk with Menahem Begin and 2 and a half hours with Ari'el Sharon -- and will depart for Jordan this morning. He will then go to Saudi Arabia. Our political correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer, reports on his talks in Israel:

Speaking last night, Charles Percy talked about a new beginning, on opening a new page in Israeli-U.S. relations. Emerging from the prime minister's residence the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee applied in practice what he had asked his hosts to do: implement a verbal cease-fire between the spokesmen of both countries as a first stage in retrieving the old state of affairs. During his talks he set out the scenario for the coming months: If the atmosphere in relations improves, the administration will resume deliberations on implementing the memorandum of understanding on strategic cooperation.

The prime minister, who was friendly during the conversation, noted time and time again in the course of the talk that Israel has serious reservations about U.S. behavior toward Israel. But Menahem Begin, too, made an effort to turn over a new leaf.

The other message Percy brought with him has to do with the future. He expressed the same positions voiced by Secretary of State Haig and others in recent days: do not surprise the administration any more, announce your moves, consult with us. The policymakers in Washington are concerned about future Israeli steps in, say, Lebanon, or perhaps against the Syrian missiles.

Percy denied reports that the United States is seeking an Israeli withdrawal to the 1967 borders. We have never wanted this, he said. The United States would not agree to have the UN Security Council impose sanctions on Israel in reaction to the passing of the Golan Law in the Knesset. This transpired from the talks with Percy.

However, the U.S. senator left no room for doubt regarding U.S. intentions: after April 1982, he said, the United States will launch a diplomatic offensive whose aim will be to expand the basis of the peace process in the area. He talked about the incorporation of another three to four Arab countries into the process. The Egyptian president will, in the opinion of the U.S. administration, be the man who would help bring additional Arab countries to the negotiating table with Israel.

Charles Percy conferred with the prime minister on various issues for 3 hours, and then for 2 and a half more hours with the defense minister. He leaves Israel this morning for Jordan, carrying unambiguous Israeli clarifications. The defense minister, for instance, emphasized that Israel is striving for peace, but that it is nevertheless determined not to permit hostile activities toward the civilian population in the north to be resumed.

News Conference

TA300813 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0755 GMT 30 Dec 81

[News bulletin]

[Text] Israel should take care not to endanger the special relations with the United States by taking unilateral steps that are oblivious of U.S. interests, Chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee Charles Percy said a few minutes ago at a news conference he held at the Jerusalem Hilton. Percy added that in his talks in Israel he had expressed great concern over the present state of relations between the two countries, a situation which -- in his opinion -- results primarily from the legislation of the Golan Law. He said he had recommended that public announcements that further aggravate the situation be moderated, and revealed that in the course of his stay in Israel he held extensive talks with three Palestinian leaders. He refused to divulge their names, adding that he had always maintained that peace would not have a real basis unless the Palestinian problem is solved.

The U.S. Senator further stated that in his upcoming talks with Arab leaders in the region, he would urge them to recognize Israel's right to exist peacefully in defensible borders and will call on them to participate in the process to attain peace.

Percy is now leaving Israel for Jordan, for the next stage of his tour of the region. Our political correspondent, Gad Becker, was the one who reported on the news conference in Jerusalem.

UN Sanctions

TA291914 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Charles Percy, said an hour ago at the end of a meeting with Prime Minister Begin that the talk clarified many misunderstandings and opened a new page in the long relations of friendship between Israel and the United States.

Our political correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer, reports that after the talk, Jerusalem political sources' evaluation that the United States would not allow the UN Security Council to impose sanctions on Israel grew even stronger.

In addition to the Golan affair, Mr Begin and Senator Percy also discussed the Lebanese problem and the autonomy talks.

This evening, Senator Percy will confer with Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and will depart for Jordan tomorrow. When he returns to the United States, he will report to President Reagan.

KNESSET TO DEBATE YAMIT EVACUATION ISSUE

TA291943 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Excerpt] The Knesset this evening voted in favor of the defense minister's motion to hold a plenum debate on the entire complex of problems involved in the evacuation of the Yamit district. The motions for the agenda on the Yamit issue were submitted by MK Yosi Sarid and MK Moredkhay Virshubsky.

Residents Agree to Negotiate

TA291529 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] The Yamit residents' Actions Committee announced about an hour ago that it is accepting the proposal of Agriculture Ministry Director General Me'ir, made today, which speaks of a new approach to their cause. The committee announced that it would enter into negotiations in the next few days in any venue decided upon.

Our correspondent reports that this is a proposal to handle them in a way similar to the way Yamit agricultural sector was dealt with and that the settlers would raise their proposals to the Cabinet, among other bodies.

Members of the Actions Committee have told our reporter that in their opinion this is a more honorable way of handling their affairs, one that would prevent the Cabinet from making dictates. They added that they would do everything to avoid further violent activity in the town.

KNESSET COMMITTEE DISCUSSES SITUATION IN NORTH

TA121552 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Israel is being aided by U.S. political activity to prevent a conflagration along the northern border. This was reported today by Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon to the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee. Our Knesset correspondent reports:

[Begin recording] Israel is not interested in having the situation in the north flare up, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon told the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee today. Militarily, Israel can defeat Syria, but Israel has no targest it wants to obtain in Syria. Israel is doing all it can to calm the situation in the north, and is using U.S. political activity to prevent a conflagration.

Knesset member Shim'on Peres argued that people in Europe believe that Israel actually wants such a conflagration. European leaders are not asking if such a confrontation will take place, but when. Mr Peres said that an information offensive should be launched to make it clear that Israel is not seeking war.

Minister Sharon replied by saying that our image of being capable of using force is actually to our advantage. Knesset Member Roni Milo, too, called for a simultaneous information campaign, aimed at the domestic populace, emphasizing our efforts to calm the situation in the north, so that our public knows that if there is a military confrontation, it would only occur despite our efforts.

Knesset member Yitzhaq Rabin said that in his opinion Syria is contemplating opening political options. He recalls the 1977 intelligence assessments about Egypt, saying they were imprecise. The then Chief of Staff Mordekhay Gur said that the assessments were precise and clearly stated that two options existed insofar as Egypt is concerned: either it would opt for peace, or it would go to war. Contacts later held with Egyptians, Gur said, confirmed this evaluation: in 1977 Egypt was just as much prepared for the military option as for the other. These exchanges were evoked by Minister Sharon's report to the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee. [end recording]

NEW GOLAN SETTLEMENTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

TA300641 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 2130 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Tel Aviv, 29 Dec -- Three new settlements are currently under construction on the Golan Heights. Together with the existing 28 settlements this will make 31 settlements on the Golan. By 1983 the number of inhabitants will increase by 2,500, reaching 10,000. These details were disclosed today by the director general of the World Zionist Organization's Settlement Department, Yehuda Deqel, during a correspondents' tour of the Golan Heights. He reported that the new settlements are called Bet Zayda, Bene Zefat and Ram.

In reply to a question, he said the application of Israeli law on the Golan Heights was an important act, but it will not change the routine activity of establishing settlements after means of sustenance can be found to be put at their disposal. He emphasized that in the future, too, there will be full coordination between the number of people directed to the Golan Heights and the means of livelihood that will be available to them.

The town of Qazrin currently has a population of 1,800 and 300 additional residential units are now being built there.

HA'ARETZ COMMENTARY ON DEFENSE REORGANIZATION

TA291521 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 29 Dec 81 p 11

[Ze'ev Schiff commentary: "Banging One's Head Against the Wall"]

[Text] What is now occurring in the Defense Ministry will not only affect the future and structure of this ministry, but also the future of Ari'el Sharon as the man who wants to lead this nation -- to lead not only the armed forces in war, but civilians, human beings, everyday people from all parties and all walks of life. Therefore, it is not only the nature of the reorganization and its results that will be decisive for Sharon, but also his way of dealing with people. Anyone who thinks that it is only opposition factors who are backing the ministry's staff is mistaken. Sharon's party is not spared from the political aspects of this grave dispute. There, too, people are interested in keeping an eye on how he is behaving as a minister, and not everyone is willing to support all his moves. It is interesting that nobody is rushing to intervene on his behalf or to come out with a declaration of support for him. Strong rivals, interested in Sharon getting into more and more trouble, are emerging in his party. Therefore the struggle in the Defense Ministry should not be regarded as limited to one front.

In the case before us, too, it is the method -- not just the contents of the reorganization -- that is, to a great extent, decisive. There is no doubt that every big organization needs reorganizing and reexamining from time to time. This is certainly the case when such complicated establishments as the Defense Ministry, and its subsidiary units, or the IDF are involved. It is almost guaranteed in advance that any reorganization plan, even a mediocre or a bad one, will eliminate various injustices and perhaps minor corruption, too. The final test depends on the quality of the reorganization program, how well it works in the future, but also on how the changes are introduced and the price all those involved are required to pay for them. There have not been many reorganizations either in the IDF or in the Defense Ministry -- least of all in the IDF. But it is impossible to claim that there has never been a reorganization in the ministry. About 15 years ago, during the time of Eshkol and Rabin, a major operation was carried out when, among other things, the manpower and recruitment establishment was transferred from the ministry to the IDF. Many people in the ministry, including many with seniority rights, were harmed. Nevertheless, there was no strike.

Over the last decade there have been few reorganizations in the ministry: twice in the Procurement Administration, in the Treasurer's Office, in the financial branch, in building and assets and in the field of research and development and the chief scientist. In one case departments were separated and a new branch established (Organization, Control and Information). It makes no difference to the case in point if these were successful organizing attempts; it is worth asking why, at this time, matters have degenerated into strikes and flaring tempers? Sharon and his staff generally have contempt for everything done in the past, as though time began at the moment they appeared in the Defense Ministry. This applies to arms sales, to the strategic dialogue with the Americans and to the organization of the establishment. But the reason for the serious dispute should not be sought in this state of affairs but, first of all in Sharon's method.

By using another method it might have been possible to gain agreement on some of the matters, although perhaps not everyone would have accepted them easily. It may also be assumed that the Committee of Defense Ministry Employees is not a paragon of virtue. In the past it has also conducted unjustified struggles and has even won them. For example, in the fight it conducted with the former director general, Prof Pinhas (Zussman), over the use of a time clock: after (Zussman) obtained the payment of overtime for them, they turned down his suggestion of using a time clock in order to supervise the reports. Then the director general lost. His departure from the ministry was speeded up because of his defeat in another fight with the committee, which was connected with the appointment of an aide for the director general. However, even if the committee is not always right in its claims, this does not in any way justify provocative and hard-hitting behavior.

This is what occurred in Sharon's relations with the employees committee and also with the top ranks of the Defense Ministry. It is true that Sharon announced his intention to implement a reorganization of the establishment, but his behavior was the same as that on the battlefield: surprises and smokescreen; blows and misleading moves. This may be good in war, but there is no enemy involved here -- only thousands of unquestionably loyal employees. The reorganization program was prepared secretly, like the memorandum of understanding with the United States. No attempt was made to explain in advance, to convince, to gain the support of the employees and the directors. It will, therefore, come as no surprise that this is the first time in the history of the ministry that directors are supporting the employees committee in a labor dispute.

An atmosphere of distrust has been created in the ministry, even to the point of mutal spying activities. If Sharon does not know this, then it can be concluded that he is not receiving reliable reports on what is happening below, in the ministry's ranks. Sometimes there is the impression that everything is being done to worsen the dispute, instead of locating it and calming it down. The best example of this is the dismissal of the senior official. Let us ignore all the rumors about the reason Sharon wanted the man dismissed, and let us even assume that the time for his replacement had indeed come. But why do this right now, when the dispute with the employees is at its peak? Is this not like throwing fuel on the fire? Why did Sharon not wait a few months, until after the dispute, to offer the man another post? It seems that his main desire is to heat things up, to create a threatening atmosphere, even at the expense of the proper transfer of his sensitive post.

There was a similar phenomenon regarding the conduct of the head of the Defense Ministry's European mission, Tzvi Alon. This is a matter involving the cream of the crop of the defense establishment, one praised by all. In the past he was responsible for two reorganizations in the procurement administration and more than once he was forced to fight with the employees committee. Because of the dispute, Alon was faced with a uncomfortable situation; but the minister maneuvered him into such a trap that he had to ask to leave his post at once. Sharon accepted his conduct only because there was no retracting his decision and justice must be done whatever the outcome -- even at the expense of the proper transfer of the post and all its connections. Why was it impossible to delay Alon until after the dispute? Alon will now attempt to pass over personal connection to whoever replaces him. But it is clear that the establishment will be harmed, especially since whoever follows him has no experience in the logistic-economic fields, in procurement and the export of weapons. At a sidelong glance, it appears as though a self-destructive instinct is guiding the establishment. Many people are now asking whether Sharon is really a good strategist, as he was once considered to be. Questions can also be raised about his tactics, because -- in his attitude toward the employees -- they are mostly based on reactions: To win at any cost, to break the wall down instead of going around it.

Why was Sharon in such a hurry with the reorganization program? One theory is that he decided to divert the public's attention from Ganger's appointment to such questions as efficiency and saving in the defense establishment, hoping in this way to pull the rug out from under the feet of the employees committee. Therefore, he came out with the reorganization program even before it was properly prepared and completed. This, too, touches on the method: Everything was done in a blitz fashion. No bids were issued, no codes were determined for the new posts, no headquarters work was done and no procedures were determined in advance. When the decision was made on the combining of the mission and attache in France, no order was sent from the director general, and no cancellation of appointment to Alon. One letter went out from the minister to the military attache. Nothing was said to anyone else, not even by phone. They had to listen to Israel radio and wait for the Israeli newspapers.

Minister Sharon explained to us that this time he chose another method: First to implement the changes, and then, over 3 months, to work out the procedures and determine the scope of the cuts and savings. "There will be no argument about the very fact of the change," he explained. But the headquarters work should have been completed before that, and with it the explanations and internal preparations. If he had wanted to avoid unpleasant arguments, he could have done so easily and they would certainly have been less stormy than those now being heard in the ministry. And, in general, why does a man as strong as Sharon fear arguments? It is strange to hear such things from a man who, in the course of his career, always complained about gaggings and the elimination of internal arguments. This is how matters are understood, even if he claims in the same breath that in the future when procedures are discussed, there will also be room for arguments.

This time they began first to build the house and afterward they turned to the architect and the assessor and checked whether there was enough money in the bank account. Who of us can decide that the program will really be more economical" Major General Tamir says that there have been similar cases in the past, and he notes the logistic reorganization made during Rabin's term as chief of staff. I appealed to Yitzhaq Rabin, and he said on this matter: "That is not true, there were broad discussions before an order was given for implementation. It is true that I had formulated the decision, but there were detailed discussion and everyone's views were heard. People came to me from the Quartermaster Branch. The chief ordnance officer even complained to me about the proposal. Finally there was a discussion in the General Staff Headquarters. And all of this occurred before the implementation."

All of that is part of the method. And, in the meantime, there has been a complete demoralization in the Ministry of Defense. The standard of work has dropped to a minimum. Everyone is occupied with the relations between the employees and the minister. People hardly work. Worried directors cannot say anything to workers going out to rallies, getting to work late or conducting discussions on the dispute.

The animosity will be pervasive for a long time to come. There are already threats and telephone disturbances in the dead of night. Perhaps there is a chance for mediation on the basis of freezing the reorganization until the completion of the headquarters work; not canceling it, but postponing it until the completion of the preparatory work -- and, while so doing, the internal, explanatory infrastructure should be prepared, something that has not been done. Otherwise the ministry will go into an extreme tailspin. It is already now clear that this fight will not produce any victors -- everyone will lose.

POST: NEW POLITICAL GROUP BEING FORMED

TA300815 Jerusalem POST in English 30 Dec 81 p 2

[Report by political reporter Sarah Honig]

[Text] Doves from several parties are organizing what may eventually become the nucleus for a new political force.

The group, to be called OMETZ (Hebrew for courage, and also an acronym for political Zionist opposition) has already convened informally several times and will announce its existence officially at a press conference on Sunday. It will hold its first open public gathering within the coming fortnight.

Among the leading members of the new grouping are the CRM's MK Shulamit Aloni, Labour MK Yosef Sarid, and MAPAM MK's Ya'ir Tzaban, Muhammad Watad and Eli'ezer Granot. Also among the founding members are the CRM's no. 2 Meron Benvenisti and Dedi Zucker, a former leader of peace now. Heads of Labour's Circle 77 group, Ze'ev Sternhall and Tzvi Kesse, are also active in OMETZ.

The founders say that all MAPAM MK's are potential members, and they hope to attract former Foreign Minister Abba Eban to their midst, as well as Labour MK 'Uzi Baram on an ad hoc basis. Several SHELI activists have also joined.

Some of the group's founders say openly that they hope it will function as a new party in the making, and will serve to constantly keep the Alignment on its toes. If Labour gives in to growing hawkish pressures, they say, there will be a constant reminder to that party of another political option which its doves may choose. But for the time being, the group members will continue to operate within their different parties.

OMETZ founders say that the division of doves into a number of separate party frameworks makes it all the more necessary for them to have a common organizational umbrella in which they can deliberate on issues and evolve lines of action, if need be.

HA'ARETZ: PORI POLL ON CHANCE FOR PEACE

TA291243 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 29 Dec 81 p 3

[Text] The chance for peace between Israel and the Arab countries appears to be neither better nor worse at the end of 1982 than it was at the beginning of the year. This is the conclusion reached by a Pori Institute nationwide public opinion poll conducted at the request of HA'ARETZ.

To the question, does the chance for peace with all the Arab countries appear better, or worse than last year, 19.1 percent replied that the chance appeared better and almost the same percentage, 20.2 said it appeared worse.

Some 53.6 percent said the chance for peace was similar to that of a year ago. The remaining 7.1 percent said they "did not know" what was the chance for peace at present.

At least 60 percent of professionals, administrators and people with a higher education believe there has been no change in the chance for peace.

The poll covered a nationwide representative sample of 1,200 men and women who were given personal interviews.

JEWISH AGENCY DEPARTMENT OPERATING NEWS AGENCY

TA270606 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Excerpts] Hundreds of Jewish newspapers throughout the world as well as radio stations and Jewish organizations are now enjoying current information on Israel which reaches them weekly through a new news agency: JNI, JERUSALEM NEWS INTERNATIONAL [acronym and name of news agency given in English]. This news agency has been activated by the Jewish Agency's Information Department. Our correspondent, Avraham Ban-Melekh, says that recently the Organization of Jewish Press in the United States has also become a subscriber to this news agency.

[Begin recording] [Ben-Melekh] Telex machines in a Bet Hakerem district house in Jerusalem have, for the last few months, been transmitting information, commentaries and reviews to hundreds of subscribers throughout the world. The JNI staff from Jerusalem broadcast in English, French and Spanish to newspapers and radio stations in the United States, South America, Europe and Australia. Dan Li'on, a member of the Jewish Agency's Information Department and one of the editors of JNI says: We provide the Diaspora with news material which the regular news agencies do not deal with.

The material is being transmitted by Telex to a distribution center in the United States, and from there by air mail to more than 130 newspapers. Among the subscribers are also dozens of newspapers in Europe and South America. [end recording]

ALGERIA

FLN, MPLA-LABOR PARTY END TALKS, SIGN DOCUMENTS

LD292250 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] The talks between the FLN and the Angolan MPLA-Labor Party delegations were concluded this evening with the signing of a protocol and the endorsement of a joint statement.

The two documents were signed on behalf of the Algerian side by Suleiman Hoffman, head of the party's Foreign Relations Committee, and on behalf of the Angolan side by Ambrosio Lukoki, Politburo member and secretary of the Central Committee for Ideology.

The two sides affirmed their parties' determination to develop relations between them. The two documents mentioned that the Angolan delegation, which arrived in Algiers last Sunday, was received by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and party secretary general. The delegation also conducted talks with a number of Algerian officials, including a number of Political Bureau officials.

LIBYA

AT-TURAYKI MEETS WITH TURKISH AMBASSADOR

LD291640 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Tripoli, 29 Dec (JANA) -- The liaison secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, today received the Turkish ambassador. The meeting was held within the framework of efforts being made by Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah to reconcile Turkey and Greece, to maintain relations between the two countries at a strong and cohesive level and to maintain the historic ties between the Turkish and Greek peoples in a manner that will perserve peace and security in the Mediterranean region.

MAURITANIA

KUWAITI PRIME MINISTER CONCLUDES VISIT 29 DEC

AB291556 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Excerpt] His highness, the crown prince and prime minister of the brotherly State of Kuwait, shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as'Salim, today concluded his visit to Nouakchott. Our distinguished guest left our capital this morning. He was seen off by Col Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, prime minister and minister of defense, who was accompanied by a delegation, the Kuwaiti ambassador in Nouakchott and his closest aides. Earlier, the two prime ministers listened to the Kuwaiti and Mauritanian national anthems, inspected an honor guard and greeted members of the Military Council for National Salvation [CMSN], the government and the diplomatic corps as well as other distinguished personalities present at the airport.

The crown prince was accorded an official and popular reception befitting the bonds of friendship, brotherhood and solidarity existing between our two bortherly states. During his stay in Nouakchott, the crown prince and prime minister of the State of Kuwait was the luncheon guest of Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the CMSN and head of state. He also had fruitful discussions with the prime minister and minister of national defense and visited some interesting places in the capital including the National Museum, Friendship Square, (?Independence) Square and the national port.

The two delegations yesterday held a working session which was described as very fruitful.

Joint Communique Released

LD292334 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah left Nouakchott this afternoon after a 3-day visit to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. The following joint communique was released on the visit of his highness to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. In response to the official invitation extended by Col Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, member of the Military Committee for National Salvation, prime minister and minister of defense of Mauritania, His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdullah as-Sabah, crown prince and prime minister of the State of Kuwait, paid an official visit to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania from 27 to 29 December 1981. His highness and the accompanying delegation were accorded a warm fraternal welcome both at the official and popular levels, a sincere expression of the depth and standing of the fraternal relations between the two sister countries. The welcome also showed Mauritania's profound cordiality and esteem for the State of Kuwait.

Lt Col Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state, received Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah who conveyed to his excellency a verbal message from his brother His Highness Shaykh al-Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of the State of Kuwait, containing the expression of cordiality, fraternity and sincere desire to strengthen the cooperation between the two sister countries.

In an atmosphere of understanding, talks were held between the two sides, chaired on the Mauritanian side by Col Maayoula Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, member of the Military Committee for National Salvation, prime minister and defense minister; and on the Kuwaiti side by His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, crown prince and prime minister.

In their talks, the two sides reviewed bilateral relations in the political, economic, cultural and information fields. The two sides expressed satisfaction with the continuity and growth of these relations. They stressed their determination to continue joint efforts to strengthen and consolidate cooperation between the two countries in these fields in fulfillment of the aspirations of the two fraternal peoples.

The two sides signed a cultural and information agreement between the two sister countries. The two sides discussed the current situation in the Arab region and particularly the developments of fateful questions. They emphasized their determination to continue action to support the struggle and resistance of the Arab Palestinian people, led by the PLO, its sole legitimate representative, to recover its lands and form its own independent state on its national homeland.

They stressed that the Arab city of Jerusalem must be liberated and that no situation likely to encroach upon the complete sovereignty of the Arabs over the holy city will be accepted. They condemned the repeated aggressions perpetrated by the enemy against the Arab citizens in the occupied land. In this respect, they expressed pride over the popular uprising in the occupied land. The two sides also strongly denounced and condemned the recent Zionist challenge in the form of Israel's declaration of annexation of the Golan Heights, a matter that runs counter to all international laws and standards.

When reviewing the situation in fraternal Lebanon, the two sides expressed their solidarity with the Lebanese people and their eagerness to support all efforts aimed at maintaining Lebanon's independence and its territorial integrity, under its legitimate authority.

When reviewing the march of joint Arab action, the two sides stressed the need for action to purify the Arab atmosphere and to devote oneself exclusively to standing up to the dangers facing the Arab nation. They expressed their conviction about the importance of strengthening Arab solidarity and making available the invulnerability and progress for the Arab nation.

When reviewing the situation in the Arab Gulf, the Mauritanian side lauded the Gulf Cooperation Council as an embodiment of the honest and constructive cooperation among the Arab Gulf states and a consolidation of their strong desire to lay down the foundations of security and stability in the region and to keep it out of international conflicts.

The two sides voiced their deep concern over the continued Iraq-Iran war, given the dangers it represents to the two countries and its threat to security in the region. They expressed their support for all sincere peaceful efforts aimed at ending the war.

Regarding Arab-African relations, the two sides stressed the importance of cooperation between these two groups, in service of the common objectives and interests of their respective peoples. The two sides strongly condemned the colonialist and racist policy practiced by South Africa and demanded that Namibia be granted its right to independence and freedom.

With regard to the international issues of common interest, their points of view were identical. The two sides expressed complete satisfaction with the positive results of the visit. They agreed to further encounters between officials of the two countries to consult on how best to realize the hopes and aspirations of the two peoples.

At the conclusion of the visit, his highness the crown prince and prime minister expressed his thanks and those of the delegation accompanying him for the extremely good reception and warm welcome accorded to them. His highness invited his brother Col Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya, member of the Military Committee for National Salvation, prime minister and defense minister, to visit Kuwait. His excellency accepted the invitation thankfully and the date will be fixed later.

MOROCCO

KUWAITI PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS 29 DEC

LD291502 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Excerpts] His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, arrived in Morocco today on an official visit. The great guest was given an official welcome at Al-Manarah Airport, Marrakech. The crown prince, His Royal Highness Prince Sidi Muhammad, led those welcoming him.

The Kuwaiti crown prince spoke about the purpose of the visit and the Arab climate prevailing during this visit to the Kingdom of Morocco, at the end of his tour of a number of Arab Maghreb countries. He said:

[Begin recording] I would like to say that we in Kuwait see a need to continue and promote exchanges of visits between brothers, to have more understanding and consultation for the sake of settling the current problems between some Arab states which are hindering the march of unified Arab action. We also view these Arab meetings as an exchange of views and consultation to lay down an Arab strategy embracing all fields. This strategy gives to the Arab nations from the east to the west more steadfastness in the struggle to put an end to the stubbornness and arrogance of the Israeli enemy. We all have to work to help and support the fraternal Palestinian people, represented by the PLO, to recover all their lands.

From this platform and from our conviction behind this policy, I have recently visited the fraternal states of Libya, Tunisia, Algeria and Mauritania. It gives me pleasure on this occasion to point out that my meetings and talks with the brothers, leaders of these states and senior officials, were clear, frank, positive, fruitful and constructive. Today, my brother members of the delegation and I are happy to pay a visit to the fraternal Moroccan Kingdom. On this visit, we carry a message of friendship and esteem for this country, for its king, government and people, from the amir, the Government and people of Kuwait.

In Kuwait, we follow and appreciate the numerous efforts which have been made and are being made by His Majesty King Hasan II to restore Arab solidarity. We support his majesty in his endeavor because we are of the opinion that the time has come for the Arab nations from the Gulf to the ocean to work toward standing up against a common enemy now that it has revealed his intentions and expansionist ambitions by the decision of the Israeli Government to annex the Syrian Golan Heights.

It is natural that during my stay in this fraternal country I will be talking to the brothers in detail about Arab and international affairs and we will come out in the end with one view which will give our Arab nation more pride and dignity. Thank you.
[end recording]

First Round of Talks

LD300040 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Excerpts] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Sidi Muhammad this evening gave a dinner party in honor of His Highness the Kuwaiti heir apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah. Present were the delegations accompanying the guest, members of the Moroccan Government led by Prime Minister Maati Bouabid, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, Arab and Muslim ambassadors in Rabat and others.

The first day of the visit to Morocco by the Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister was marked by talks which began this evening at Marrakish Municipality Palace between the two delegations headed by his highness the Kuwaiti heir apparent and Prime Minister Maati Bouabid. This is our correspondent from Marrakish:

The first round of Moroccan-Kuwaiti talks took place this evening. During this session, which was held under the chairmanship of His Highness Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah as-Sabah and Prime Minister Maati Bouabid, three committees were set up: the cultural affairs committee; the committee of economic affairs and exchanges; and the financial affairs committee.

At the beginning of the session, Prime Minister Maati Bouabid spoke. He reviewed various aspects that mark Morocco's domestic and foreign policies. On this occasion, he pointed out the great similarity between Kuwait and Morocco with regard to the response to the royal family by the people and also the successful democratic life and constitutional system which is based on political participation and guaranteed freedom.

In his speech, the prime minister stressed that Morocco always endeavors to have cordial relations with all states and in particular with its neighbors despite the clouds that spread over these relations because Morocco believes in the unity of the Arab Maghreb. He said: Now and after the Fes Arab summit conference, we are called upon to reduce our disputes and to work for the unity of the ranks to (?establish) the right of the Palestinian people and to liberate all the Arab territories. This requires that stands be derived from a position of responsibility.

In his reply, Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah as-Sabah thanked the prime minister for his welcome and said Kuwait is closely following the wise policy drawn up by King Hasan II, a policy seeking to strengthen the internal Arab front and to close the gaps which could be exploited by the enemies of the Arab nation.

Referring to his visit to Libya, Tunisia, Algeria and Mauritania and also to his current visit to Morocco, the Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister said the aim is to meet the brothers in these countries and to conduct comprehensive talks in connection with the circumstances through which the Arab nation is passing and also to lay down an agreed formula guaranteeing for the Arab nation more solidarity, steadfastness and serious work for the restoration of all Arab territories. He stressed that his talks were successful and that it was agreed to adopt all steps which guarantee success for the coming Arab summit conference. He expressed the hope that meetings will continue between Moroccan and Kuwaiti officials to work hand in hand to serve the Arab causes, particularly that of Palestine.

Prior to this general meeting, Prime Minister Maati Bouabid had a long private meeting with his guest.

Taking part in the talks on the Kuwaiti side were: heir apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah; Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn; Trade Minister Jasim al-Marzuq; Finance and Planning Minister 'Abd al-Latif Yusuf al-Hamad; Foreign Under Secretary Rashid ar-Raship; Information Undersecretary Shaykh Nasir; and Kuwaiti Ambassador to Morocco 'Abdallah al-Husayn. On the Moroccan side: Prime Minister Maati Bouabid; Minister of State for Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta; Minister of State for Cooperation Mahjoubi Aherdan; Minister of State Moulay Ahmad al-Alawi; Trade and Industry Minister Azzedine Guessous; Minister Delegate to the Prime Minister Abdelkrim Ghallab; Foreign Secretary of State Abdelhaz Tazi; Moroccan Ambassador to Kuwait Mohamed Naciri; official in charge of public affairs to the prime minister, Kamal al-Akdar; director of economic affairs to the prime minister, Abdel Hamid Jwahri; and director of the Arab and Islamic Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry, Abdel Hamaid Kattani.

BULGARIA'S TANCHEV CONCLUDES VISIT 26 DEC

LD290430 Rabat MAP in English 1202 GMT Dec 81

[Excerpt] Casablanc 28 Dec (MAP) -- Mr Petur Tanchev, first deputy president of the Bulgarian State Council and chairman of the State Council and chairman of Bulgarian Popular Agrarian Union, left, here Saturday, ending a few days visit in Morocco.

BRIEFS

PETROLEUM DRILLING RESULTS -- The Ministry of Energy and Mining Resources issued the following statement: The National Bureau for Petroleum Research and Exploitations carried out a prospecting operation in the (At-Tawilah) basin within the framework of a loan from the International Development and Reconstruction Bank. Initial drilling was completed on site 101 [words indistinct] 35 km southeast of (At-Tawilah). The drilling revealed the existence of gas combined with oil at a depth of (?3,240) meters. [Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 23 Dec 81 LD]

TUNISIA

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON KUWAIT LEADER'S VISIT

LD242214 Kuwait Domestic Serivce in Arabic 1700 GMT 24 Dec 81

[Text] In the name of God the compassionate the merciful, the following joint communique has been issued on the visit of His Royal Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, heir apparent and chairman of the Council of Ministers, to the sisterly Tunisian Republic:

In response to an official invitation from Mohamed Mzali, Tunisian prime minister, His Royal Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, heir apparent and chairman of the Council of Ministers, made an official visit to the Tunisian Republic from 21-24 December 1981.

His royal highness and the delegation accompanying him were accorded a brotherly and official reception which expressed the depth of the brotherly ties between the two countries and their two brotherly peoples. His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba, president of the Tunisian Republic, received His Royal Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah whereupon his royal highness conveyed to his excellency a verbal message from his brother His Royal Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of the State of Kuwait, containing the sentiment of amity, brotherhood and a sincere wish to widen the horizons of cooperation between the two bortherly countries.

Talks between the two sides were carried out in an atmosphere of understanding. They were headed by Mohamed Mzali, Tunisian prime minister on the Tunisian side, and by Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, heir apparent and chairman of the Council of Ministers, on the Kuwait side.

The two sides reviewed during their talks the solid bilateral relations existing between the two brotherly countries. They noted the accomplishments in joint work and cooperation between them with great satisfaction. They stressed their determination to bolster the cooperation between then in various fields. The two sides signed a protocol regarding agricultural investment, another regarding the development of the Tunis commercial center and a loan agreement between the Kuwaiti fund for Arab economic development and the Tunisian Government to finance a water refining project. The implementation protocol of the information and cultural agreement, which had been signed previously between the two countries, was also signed.

The two sides discussed the current situation in the Arab region, particularly the developments in the Palestinian issue, the continuation of the Israeli occupation of Arab territory and the Israeli enemy's expansionist plans, whereupon the two sides expressed in that field, sentiments of pride and esteem toward the popular uprising in the occupied territory. They stressed their determination to continue bolstering the struggle and steadfastness of the Palestinian Arab people under the leadership of the PLO, its sole legitimate representative, for regaining its territories and for establishing its independent state on its national Palestinian soil. They also stressed the necessity of liberating the Jerusalem Arab town and on not accepting any situation which could violate complete Arab sovereignty over the holy city.

The two sides also expressed their strong condemnation and denunciation of the new Israeli defiances embodied in its declaration on annexing the Golan, which contradicts international laws and norms and the UN Charter. They stressed their complete support for the sister Syrian Arab Republic and that they will stand at its side in confronting defiances. They emphasized the necessity of working for the achievement of a unified Arab strategy for confronting the enemy.

In their review of the situation in Lebanon, the two sides stressed their support for Arab efforts aimed at reinstituting peace and security in the brotherly country, safeguarding its Arab nature and the unity of Lebanon under the shadow of its legitimate authority. The two sides reviewed, in their talks, the path of the joint Arab work and stressed the necessity of striving to eradicate all traces of the peripheral Arab disputes and of settling all of them in a brotherly constructive spirit to concentrate on confronting the dangers of destiny to which the Arab nation has been subjected at this crucial stage in its history. Regarding that, the two sides stressed their endeavor to make all efforts (?necessary) to perfect forms of cooperation and unification between the Arab countries and to provide all requisites of progress and [word indistinct] for their peoples.

Reviewing the situation in the Arabian Gulf region, the Tunisian side praised the Gulf Cooperation Council as an embodiment of the spirit of honest and fruitful cooperation among the Arab countries of the Arabian Gulf region and a (?confirmation) of their pan-Arab ideas and true determination to continue the move for anchoring the pillars of security and settlement in the region and for distancing it from international conflicts.

The two sides expressed their deep concern about the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war due to the dangers it poses for the two countries and for the security of the region and for its draining of Arab and Islamic energies. As a means of quickly ending that war, the two sides stressed their support of peaceful efforts.

Reviewing the situation in Africa, the two sides expressed their concern over what was happening in some African regions and expressed their absolute support for the peoples of Namibia and South Africa in the struggle against colonialism and racism.

Concerning international situations of mutual concern, their viewpoints were congruous regarding all subjects discussed. The two sides expressed their utmost pleasure over the results realized by the visit and they stressed the importance of continuing to exchange friendly visits between officials of the two countries.

His Royal Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah and the delegation accompanying him showed great interest in the manifestations of advancement and progress accomplished by the Tunisian people in various fields under the leadership of the great struggler, His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba, and in the forthcoming economic plan.

His royal highness expressed his gratitude and that of his delegation for the hospitality and the warm reception they received. His Royal Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah invited his brother Mohamed Mzali, prime minister, to visit Kuwait. His excellency thankfully accepted the invitation but the date will be fixed later.

PRIME MINISTER MEETS WITH PLO OFFICIAL 26 DEC

LD270806 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] Last night at the government palace in Al-Qasabah, Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali received Talal Naji, member of the PLO Executive Committee, who was accompanied by 'Abdallah al-Hurani, director general of information and culture in the PLO. Also at the meeting were National Education Minister Mohamed Frej Chedli and Hasan Belaoui, PLO representative in Tunisia.

Talal Naji pointed out that the meeting provided a good opportunity to discuss the latest developments in the Middle East, particularly the Zionist enemy's decision to annex the Syrian Golan Heights and the massing of its forces on Lebanon's southern borders to achieve its expansionist aims.

Finally, he stressed the coincidence of views of the two sides regarding the need to marshal all Arab resources to confront the vicious plans of the Israeli enemy and to provide the means of victory for the Arab nation in the fight to regain its territories.

BRIEFS

TAP-QNA COOPERATION -- A cooperation agreement between Tunisia's news agency "TAP" and Qatar's "QNA" was signed on Sunday in Tunis at the headquarters of "TAP". This agreement is part of co-operation between Tunisia and Qatar in matters of information. It provides for the exchange of the two news agencies' news services through a direct line and for the exchange of photos and their distribution to press enterprises in the two countries. The agreement also provides for the exchange of publications, books, news and records and for training for the two news agencies' correspondents. The agreement was signed by Mr 'Ali Said (Kawari), director and editor of "QNA," currently on a visit in Tunisia, and by Mr (Bechir Toual), director general of "TAP." [Text] [Tunis TAP in English 1338 GMT 21 Dec 81 LD]

TUNISIAN-KUWAITI AGREEMENT -- A ceremony was held this morning at the Ministry of Information, during which the minister of information, Tahir Belkoda, and the undersecretary of the Kuwaiti Ministry of Information signed a program for information cooperation between the Kuwaiti and Tunisian Governments. The program provides for the development of cooperation between the two countries' Information Ministries, the radios, televisions and news agencies. [Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 22 Dec 81 LD]

ETHIOPIA

ETHIOPIAN, SOVIET WOMEN'S GROUPS SIGN AGREEMENT

EA292158 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] A cooperation agreement has been signed in Addis Ababa between the Revolutionary Ethiopia Women's Association [REWA] and the committee of Soviet women. The agreement will provide for the further strengthening of relations between the two associations in various areas of endeavor.

The accord was signed today by Comrade Abezash Wolde Michael, chairperson of REWA, and Comrade Valentina Tereshkova, chairperson of the committee of Soviet Women. Comrade Tereshkova, noted on the occasion that the agreement would foster friendship and cooperation between the women of the two countries.

FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY OFFICIAL ENDS VISIT

EA241502 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0930 GMT 24 Dec 81

[Text] French Communist Party [PCF] Central Committee member Comrade (Jean Raymond), who has been on a working visit to socialist Ethiopia, returned to Paris this morning. In a statement before departure, Comrade (Jean Raymond) said his visit contributed to the strengthening of relations between the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] and the PCF, as well as their common anti-imperialist struggle.

He said the talks the PCF delegation had with COPWE officials were fruitful and useful, adding that the briefings he received during his stay in socialist Ethiopia helped him to better know the development stage of the Ethiopian revolution and the country's foreign policy. In his statement, Comrade (Jean Raymond) expressed his best wishes for COPWE's success in overcoming its great responsibilities and achieving its goals.

ERITREAN OFFICIAL WARNS OF ETHIOPIAN ATTACK

GF281944 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1843 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Doha, 28 Dec (WAKH) -- An Eritrean official in the Gulf has said that Ethiopia has used its warships to bombard strongholds of the Eritrean fighters overlooking the coast.

Osman (Abu Baker), repreeentative of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Popular Liberation Forces in the Gulf, said that Ethiopia is preparing for a new campaign of extermination against the population of the liberated Eritrean territories and is massing heavy arms and internationally prohibited chemical weapons for this purpose. He added that hundreds of people in this area have fled to neighboring islands of the YAR to escape the Ethiopian bombardment that has killed and wounded many persons.

The Eritrean official appealed to the OAU and international human rights organizations to send factfinding teams to investigate the crimes perpetrated by Ethiopia against its persecuted nationalities. Osman (Abu Baker) said that Osman Saleh Sabbe, leader of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Popular Liberation Forces, has sent messages to Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi -- in his capacity as OAU chairman -- appealing to them to intervene to end the Ethiopian extermination campaign and to prevent the exacerbation of the problem of Eritrean refugees, whose number exceeds 1.5 million. He also called for policies to encourage the achievement of a peaceful solution that will provide independence for Eritrean and security, stability and peace for the peoples of the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea.

TIGRE FRONT CLAIMS 640 ETHIOPIANS SURRENDERED

EA271552 (Clandestine) Voice of Tigre Revolution in Tigrigna to Ethiopia 1345 GMT 27 Dec 81

[Text] Government agents, misled by the fascist Dergue's propaganda and armed to fight against their interests and their fellow compatriots, have continued to give themselves up to the TPLF [Tigre People's Liberation Front], their vanguard organization. Thus, on 19 December, 48 agents; on 22 December, 41 agents; and on 23 December, another 28 fully armed government agents gave themselves up to units of the TPLF people's militia stationed at Tselemt. All in all, 117 government agents defected to the Tigre people's vanguard organization.

Among those who surrendered are two captains and two section commanders. Up until 23 December, 1981, that is in the space of only 19 days, 640 government agents defected to our organization, thus escaping from the fascist Dergue's grip.

Meanwhile, 17 government agents and regular soldiers defected from Adigrat, Edaga Hamus and Mekele between 24 and 26 December, 1981.

SEYCHELLES

CAPTURED MERCENARIES TO BE TRIED IN JANUARY

AB291451 Paris AFP in French 1354 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Victoria, 29 Dec (AFP) -- The six mercenaries held in detention in the Seychelles since the 25 November coup attempt will be tried in Victoria at the end of January, it was learned in Victoria on Tuesday.

On Monday, Seychelles President Albert Rene had said that the mercenaries could be tried at an appropriate time without giving a precise date. Meanwhile, it was learned from judicial circles that the trial could take place within a month. The six captured mercenaries are: Martin Dolinchek, Roger England, Aubray Brooks, Jeremiyah Cornellius Puren, Bernard Carey and Robert Sims.

In another development, a top-level Seychelles delegation left Victoria last weekend for Cuba where it will brief the Latin American press on the aborted coup of 25 November 1981. Also, during its 1-week visit to Cuba, the delegation will set up a commission to examine the possible areas of cooperation between the two islands.

SOMALIA

SOMALIA FRONT CLAIMS FIVE OFFICIALS DEFECT

EA292236 (Clandestine) Radio Kulmis in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] The five Somalis who asked the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah for political asylum have now joined the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS]. The men, who like other Somalis have fled the harsh dictatorial rule of Mohammad Siad Barre or joined the DFSS, were previously members of the so-called party and National Assembly. Umar Salad Elmi and Abdullahi Muhammad Hasan (Fash) served in many posts in the Siad Barre administration.

In a statement after joining the DFSS, they said they were committed to the DFSS struggle to topple the declining regime of Siad Barre.

TANZANIA

NYERERE CONCERNED ABOUT U.S. POLICIES IN AFRICA

EA282010 Dar es Salaam in English to East Central and Southern Africa 1600 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Tanzania has expressed Africa's concern about American policies in southern Africa and hopes that Americans, on their own, through contact with African countries or her Western European allies, who are more sensitive to African problems, will change.

In an interview with a Paris-based magazine, President Nyerere said that it was his hope that America will change attitudes she indicated to Africa when the Reagan administration first came to power. Mwalimu was commenting on the U.S. intention to back up South Africa as an ally and to be free to support UNITA's Jonas Savimbi who is engaged in activities to destabilize Angola, a member of the OAU and the United Nations.

President Nyerere emphasized that if it was wrong for the Soviet Union to threaten an East European country, then it was equally wrong for the Americans to support a regime which seeks to destabilize independent countries in southern Africa.

UGANDA

VICE PRESIDENT MUWANGA DEFINES ARMY'S ROLE

EA251538 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 25 Dec 81

[Text] The role of the Uganda National Liberation Army [UNLA] is to defend the country's territorial integrity, the people's lives and their property. No soldier has a license to kill or to commit crimes and anybody found doing so will definitely face the law of the land.

This assurance was given by the vice president and minister of defense, Mr Paulo Muwanga, on Christmas Eve at a party he hosted at Lake Victoria Hotel in honor of UNLA officers and men and Tanzanian People's Defense Forces [TPDF] training officers.

Mr Muwanga assured the nation that the UNLA has the ability and the means to protect Uganda, her people and her property. [Words indistinct] he dismissed the fears amplified by foreigners and unpatriotic Ugandans that Uganda is unsafe because of a few banditry acts which occur in some places. Mr Muwanga paid glowing tribute to President Nyerere, the party, Chama Cha Mapinduzi, the people of Tanzania and Ugandans who shed their blood to liberate Uganda. He noted that the bond of friendship between Uganda and Tanzania is sealed in blood.

In his speech, the army chief of staff commended the TPDF officers for the noble role they played in the training of the UNLA. He assured his listeners that the UNLA is capable of defending Uganda at all costs. The chief of staff called upon bandits and thugs to rejoin their fellow Ugandans in the reconstruction of the country.
The ceremony was also attemded by the minister of state for defence, Mr Peter Otai, and high-ranking government and army officers.

CHAD

GOUKOUNI TO VISIT SUDAN 'IN NEXT FEW DAYS'

LD291342 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Algiers, 29 Dec (APS) -- Col Mamari Djime Ngakinar [name as received], Chad's minister of defense, veterans and disabled veterans, and the private envoy of the President of Chad to President Chadli Bendjedid, secretary general of the FLN and president of the republic, in an interview given yesterday, Monday, to Channel Three of the Algerian Radio and Television Service, said that "the president of Chad, Goukouni Oueddei, will pay a visit to Sudan in the next few days."

In his statement Colonel Ngakinar said that "the visit to be made by President Goukouni Oeuddei to Sudan falls within the framework of the policy of neighborliness pursued by the Chadian National Unity Government despite the differences of opinion which currently separate Chad from some African countries."

President Goukouni's private envoy went on to say "that this difference of opinion has even emerged in connection with the African force in Chad" because "there is immense misunderstanding between the Chadian National Unity Government and the Organization of African Unity regarding the role of this force. However, the difficulties have been surmounted and the African force will carry out its tasks."

Regarding the internal situation, the Chadian defense minister said: "Contrary to what has been reported in the Western press, the situation is not that bad, and numerous sister countries have affirmed their readiness to extend assistance to correct the shortcomings in the Chadian Army's equipment. Part of this assistance has arrived and other consignments of equipment and components are expected to arrive shortly to enable the National Unity Government to reconstruct the country."

Colonel Ngakinar concluded his statement by saying that "the Chadian National Unity Government today is capable of keeping an eye on the national territory and ensuring security for the citizens who have begun to return to their homes."

CONGO

CUBAN CP MEMBERS LEAVE BRAZZAVILLE AFTER VISIT

AB251328 Paris AFP in English 0919 GMT 25 Dec 81

[Text] Brazzaville, Dec 25 (AFP) -- Two members of the Cuban Communist Party have just ended a visit to the Congo which strengthened the relations of solidarity and friendship between their party and the ruling Congolese Labour Party, the Congolese national radio reported.

Both parties had pledged to develop these relations further and increase the exchange of experiences and delegations, the radio said.

GAMBIA

PARLIAMENT RATIFIES TREATY CREATING SENEGAMBIA

AB292241 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Excerpts] This was an historic day for the Gambia people. The deliberations in the Gambian parliament lasted several hours just like in the Senegalese National Assembly. But when you have the heavy responsibility for rewriting history, time is not important. As a matter of fact, what do these few hours of debates represent for the generations to come?

Here in Banjul, Senegambia entered the history books at 2105. There were 32 representatives taking part in the balloting: all 32 voted for, no one voted against or (?abstained).

The headquarters of the Gambian parliament on (Ebada) Drive was crowded with people. Various Gambian personalities were present: political and government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, ordinary Gambian citizens and especially the representatives of the Gambian people. The gathering of people could hardly fit into the parliament hall where an extraordinary session was convened to ratify the treaty providing for the creation of Senegambia, signed on 17 December in Dakar by Presidents Abdou Diouf and Dawda Jawara.

It was 1700. Thirty-seven of the 39 MP's composing the Gambian parliament were present. This was more than a quorum, so the assembly could sit. First, Vice President of the Republic of Gambia Assane Moussa Chamara read the resolutions signed in Kaour on 14 November and in Dakar on 17 December and urged the MP's, on behalf of the Gambian Government, to vote in favor of the Senegambian Confederation. But this was only an appeal because he could not commit the Gambian assemblymen to do so. To emphasize this, the speaker of the Gambian parliament, the Honorable Alieu Sulayman Jack, presented the act to his MP's.

I was struck by the similarity -- another one -- between Senegalese and Gambians. Any MP has the right to express his opinion and that of his constituency. The Gambian opposition was not kept out of the debates, but it excluded itself from them because its MP's left the assembly hall after one intervention which was immediately booed. There were only three opposition MP's. The Gambian MP's gave full support to the confederation.

There were more than 4 hours of debate during which Senegamiba gradually took shape. Finally, the most important act took place at 2205: the balloting. It was simple, but in line with Gambian tradition; that is it was in a democratic atmosphere. Each MP said yes or no when called upon. The 32 MP's present in the hall said yes to Senegambia.

Speaker Jack took note of the result and will report to President Dawda Jawara. But we can henceforth hail Senegambia.

GHANA

PRESIDENT RETURNS HOME AFTER TALKS IN LAGOS

AB241830 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 24 Dec 81

[Text] The president, Dr Limann, returned home this afternoon after talks in Lagos with his Nigerian counterpart, President Shehu Shagari. The talks were held behind closed doors and no statement was issued. But according to sources close to our correspondent, the talks were part of the continuing process of strengthening relations between the two countries. Our correspondent said the presence of the ministers of finance and economic planning, fuel and power, and trade indicated that the talks might have dealt specifically with economic and energy matters.

Other members of the delegation were the ministers of transport and communications, foreign affairs and information and tourism. The governor of the Bank of Ghana, Alex Ashiagbob, and the economic adviser tc the president, Dr Ahmed, and the chairman of the Cocoa Marketing Board, Harry Dodoo, were also in the delegation.

FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT

AB300755 Paris AFP in English 0740 GMT 30 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Accra, 30 Dec (AFP) -- Former Foreign Minister Victor Owusu, defeated in Ghana's 1979 presidential election by President Hilla Limann, will run in the 1983 poll as nominee of the new All People's Party (APP), it was announced Tuesday. APP Chairman John Bilson made the announcement at a part rally at Sunyani, 400 kms (250 miles) northwest of here.

GUINEA-BISSAU

FORMER PRESIDENT CABRAL TO BE RELEASED 30 DEC

LD292330 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 2300 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Former President Luis Cabral of Guinea-Bissau tomorrow is being released from the house arrest under which he has been held since the 14 November 1980 coup. He will be allowed to go into exile in Cuba, the Portuguese news agency ANOP learned tonight.

The agency said according to information available to it, Luis Cabral will be released tomorrow morning and soon afterwards flown to the Cape Verdes island of Sal, before proceeding to Havana.

By this decision, the new Guinea-Bissau authorities are fulfilling the assurances given internationally that they would set the imprisoned former president free before the end of the year.

LIBERIA

DOE TAKES WEEK'S REST ON ADVICE OF DOCTORS

AB280804 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Excerpts] The Liberian leader, Commander in Chief Samuel Kanyon Doe, is presently in (Kruzone), Grand Geddeh County, his hometown where he is expected to have a week long rest upon the advice of his medical doctor. According to an executive mansion release issued in Monrovia over the weekend, the head of state is accompanied by the People's Redemption Council [PRC] speaker, Brig Gen Geoffrey Gbatu; PRC Secretary General Abraham D. Kollie; Lt Col Alfred Deyeh, PRC member and Lt Gen Henry Dugbah, chief of staff, armed forces of Liberia.

According to the release, the PRC chairman will be in direct contact with the cochairman of the council on any urgent matter affecting the state.

HEAD OF STATE SUSPENDS PRC MEMBER FOR 4 MONTHS

AB242024 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 24 Dec 81

[Text] The head of state and chairman of the People's Redemption Council, PRC, C.I.C. Samuel K. Doe, has suspended Lt Col Albert Toe, member of the PRC, for 4 months from the council. According to an executive mansion release, Lt Col Toe was suspended because of his absence from the council without the approval of the vice head of state. This action takes effect immediately, the release added.

MALI

TRAORE WELCOMES SENEGAMBIA CONFEDERATION

AB242103 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 24 Dec 81

[Text] The head of state has received the following telegram from the secretary general of the Malian People's Democratic Union [UDPM] and president of the Republic of Mali:

It is with real satisfaction that the Malian people, their party, the UDPM, their government and I have learned about the birth of the Senegambia confederation. We warmly salute such a happy initiative of the Gambian and Senegalese Governments which have struggled together with joy and determination to set up a viable entity responding fully to the fundamental aspirations of their peoples.

Such a resounding victory as you have just won honors all Africa and we are convinced that such a great common undertaking as Senegambia will contribute to establishing happiness and tranquillity for the Senegalese and Gambian peoples. I therefore want to reiterate, Mr President and dear brother, the constant determination of the Malian people and their government to spare no effort for the total success of our ideals of peace, justice and progress.

I assure you, Your Excellency, of my best wishes for your personal welfare and the well-being of your people.

Highest brotherly regards.

Signed: Gen Moussa Traore

NIGERIA

NATIONAL DEFENSE BUDGET FIGURES ANNOUNCED

AB291108 Lagos International Service in English 1030 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] More than 404 million naira has been allocated to defense in 1982 under the Nigerian Government's defense budget proposal. Five hundred and forty eight million naira was allocated to this sector in 1981.

Out of the amount, the Nigerian Army is to spend 143,989,332 naira. The air force is to receive 105,734,688 naira while the navy gets 107,163,730 naira.

In his budget speech to the National Assembly 2 weeks ago, President Shehu Shagari restated the Federal Government's determination to build a mobile and virile military force for Nigeria. He added that efforts to provide accomodation for members of the armed forces would also be intensified.

UNITY PARTY EXPELS SENATOR FOR CRITICISM

AB291740 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] A top member of the Unity Party of Nigeria, Senator Shikiwu Shitabe, from Lagos State has been expelled from the state wing of the party. The political adviser to the state governor on political affairs, Alhaji Awufu Williams, said the action was taken against Shitabe because of his anti-party activities. The senator had criticized the state government's education policy as it affected the admission of pupils of private primary schools into the state's secondary schools.

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

SAO TOME COMMUNIQUE DENOUNCES 'UNRULY ACTS'

AB291347 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 1200 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] Sao Tome, 29 Dec (ANGOP) -- In an official communique, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe announced that on the island of Principe, a group of irresponsible persons and provocateurs manipulated by internal reactionary forces, Saturday night and Sunday morning, committed unruly acts which did not turn into a tragedy solely because of law enforcement agents remained calm and composed.

These acts, says the communique, follow the appearance on the island, 2 weeks ago, of pamphlets calling for the independence of that part of the national territory under the pretext that not enough products are sent there to supply the market and giving the impression that everything was available in the Sao Tome capital. The population of the two islands which make up the republic, contrary to what is usually the case during the December holidays, were equally deprived of a number of products because of the delay in the arrival of the ship that was to bring in the supply of goods, the communique explained.

As the communique further states, Saturday's incidents which caused several injuries fortunately not serious, as a result of shots fired from hunting guns and small caliber pistols, are similar to those that led the Sao Tome people to oppose the 1979 census. After warning that the enemies of the Sao Tome revolution will mount a direct offensive, the communique ends with an appeal to strengthen vigilance and urges each citizen to use reson.

SENEGAL

ITALIAN SOCIALIST LEADER ARRIVES 26 DEC

AB270653 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 26 Dec 81

[Text] Italian Socialist Party [PSI] Secretary General Bettino Craxi arrived early this evening in our capital where he was welcomed by Amadou Cisse Dia, Moustapha Niasse and Joseph Makame, respectively the deputy secretary general, the political secretary and the secretary for international relations in the Senegalese Socialist Party [PS]. Craxi made the following statement to newsmen:

[Begin recording] [Bettino Craxi] First of all, I am very happy to be able to get to know Senegal. It is my first visit to this country which I only know through pictures and media reports and whose history and leaders I know. I have on several occasions met with Senegalese colleagues whom I got to know abroad. I am personally happy to be here. This will be a good opportunity to strengthen relations of cooperation between our two parties. My visit will possibly also be used to open more important areas of cooperation between Senegal and Italy.

[Question] Mr Secretary General, it is well known that the PS and Senegal have launched an experiment in democracy said to be unprecedented in Africa. How is the experiment judged in Italy in general and within the PSI in particular?

[Answer] To tell the truth, I believe that in Senegal, Italy and Europe know better what is going on in Africa, especially in countries with experiments that are quite interesting for Europe and not very different from our own experiments in political systems. One must believe that such experiments will be (?successful).

[Question] With your permission, I will ask you a last question on developments in Poland. We know that the Italian Communist Party has openly deplored the situation in Warsaw. In this connection, I would like to know the PSI stance.

[Answer] The PCI said it disapproved of the Soviet intervention in Czechoslovakia. Now it has condemned the developments in Poland. But we ask the Italian Communists to do the following: express active solidarity with the Polish trade union, Solidarity, and denounce the Soviet responsibility because the Soviet Union is involved in the Polish events. We have a simple stance. On the one hand, we condemn this military and police repression along with all democratic countries and governments as well as all free people. On the other hand, we know well that the possibilities for us to take any action are limited. In a way, we must be realistic, therefore. But this does not mean we are indifferent to the situation.

[Question] Thank you Mr Secretary General. [end recording]

It must be recalled that the Italian ambassador to Senegal was also present at the welcome ceremony. In another development, Craxi, who arrived in Dakar today, will be received tomorrow by the president. Later on Monday, he will participate in a working session at the PS building with a PS delegation led by (Vande Lou).

UPPER VOLTA

FINANCE MINISTER OUTLINES 1982 DRAFT BUDGET

AB282222 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Excerpts] The head of state, Col Saye Zerbo, this morning met Finance Minister Edmond Ky. On this occasion, he was accompanied by the members of the Steering Committee and the Permanent Secretariat of the Military Committee of Redress for National Progress [CMRPN].

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the 1982 draft budget. It is recalled that the budget estimate was fixed during a Cabinet meeting at about 48 billion CFA francs, more precisely at 48,949,413,000 CFA francs. The finance minister explained that the budget is to contribute to reducing the effects of the world economic crisis, deeply felt in our country where the rising inflation is a permanent nightmare, as it continously erodes the purchasing power of Upper Voltan citizens.

In spite of this difficult economic situation, the estimated budget has risen by 20.86 percent. Minister Edmond Ky outlines the 1982 draft budget:

[Begin recording] Mr President of the CMRPN, honorable members of the CMRPN, I have the honor to explain to you the 1982 draft budget as discussed and adopted by the Council of Ministers. The balanced budget, which takes into account our expenses and receipts, stands at 48,949,413,000 CFA francs. This shows an increase of 20.86 percent compared to the 1981 budget estimate. It is influenced by the international economic crisis marked by the world inflation rate and the stagnation of commercial exchanges and rising prices of imported goods due to inflation, which should make higher taxes on imports possible.

Import prices, which are marked by inflation, have continued to go up by an average yearly rate of 13 percent for 5 years now, which erodes the purchasing power of wage earners, especially public servants. In view of this, a salary increase has been announced to achieve social peace.

International stagnation also affects the country's gross national product with several enterprises facing difficulties. This causes a loss of profits at the level of some public revenues and an increased demand for state subsidies from state and semistate enterprises. It is in this context that the 1982 draft budget must be viewed. [end recording]

ANGOLA

MAPUTO CITES ANGOLAN PAPER ON U.S. RELATIONS

EA291640 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Text] The U.S. Government announced it is going to send a special envoy to Luanda to start talks with the Angolan Government on the normalization of relations between the two countries.

Commenting on this JORNAL DE ANGOLA says the decision seems to reflect a positive reaction from Washington to the position expressed by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos for bilateral talks.

The United States is the only Western country which refuses to recognize the Angolan Government for the alleged reason that Cuban soldiers are in the country.

PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLIES BEGIN ORDINARY SESSION

AB281349 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 1318 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Luanda, 28 Dec (ANGOP) -- The ordinary session of the provincial people's assemblies, the highest provincial legislative organs, began today in the Angolan provinces. Deputies will discuss matters relating to the economic and social development of the areas under their jurisdiction.

The work programs place special emphasis on the problems of agriculture, particularly the organization of the agro-cattle raising sector. Proposals for the restructuring of some provincial commissariats (executive organs) as well as the examination of the plans recommended also will be debated by the people's assemblies.

MOZAMBIQUE

PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL RESHUFFLES CABINET

EA291218 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 29 Dec 81

[Communique issued 28 December by the Presidency of the Republic]

[Text] The implementation of the great tasks of the decade of victory over underdevelopment demands adequate growth of the functions of the leadership of the state apparatus. In this way, we shall be in a position to make 1982 a decisive year for the implementation of great political, economic and social tasks.

In this context, the president of the FRELIMO and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, Field Marshal Samora Moises Machel, is to appoint the following:

Armando Emilio Guebuza, member of the Permanent Political Committee of the Central Committee of FRELIMO, to the post of the resident minister in Sofala province.

Sergio Vieira, [former minister-governor, Bank of Mozambique and] member of the Central Committee of FRELIMO, to the post of minister of agriculture.

Prakash Ratilal [former deputy minister-governor of the Bank of Mozambique] to the post of minister-governor of the Bank of Mozambique.

These appointments imply that the new appointees will cease to exercise their previous functions.

The minister of the interior, Mariano Matsinhe, member of the Permanent Political Committee of the Central Committee of FRELIMO, now ceases to be resident minister in Sofala province.

The minister of planning, Mario Da Craca Machungo, member of the Permanent Political Committee of the Central Committee of FRELIMO also ceases to be minister of agriculture.

In order to strengthen the cohesion and organization of the state apparatus, the Ministry of Labor has been abolished and the State Secretariat of Labor, which will be under the Council of Ministers, has been established.

The posts of director and deputy director in the office of the president of the republic have been abolished.

The following have been appointed secretaries of state:

Luis Bernardo Honwana becomes secretary of state for culture in the ministry of Education and Culture.

Valeriano Ferrao becomes secretary of state for foreign affairs in the Foreign Ministry.

Antonio Jose Carvalho Neves becomes secretary of state for labor.

(Muramali Mamadu Hussein) becomes private secretary of the president of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

[Name indistinct] (Madierca) becomes head of department on the Central Committee of FRELIMO.

(Josiah Costa) becomes director with the functions [words indistinct] in the Ministry of Education and Agriculture.

All these newly appointed officials cease exercising their previous functions.

The struggle continues.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO PROGRAM SAYS SIX SOUTH AFRICANS KILLED

LD291126 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 28 Dec 81

[SWAPO program]

[Text] Windhoek -- the racist illegal military authorities today reported that six racist South African soldiers were killed and many others wounded during a fierce battle in northeastern Namibia over the Christmas weekend with PLAN [People's Liberation Army of Namibia] forces.

According to a racist military spokesman in Windhoek, capital of Namibia, the fighting occurred after a so-called security force [words indistinct] patrol came across a group of SWAPO guerrillas near (Congo) in the northeastern region of Namibia. No casualties were reported so far on SWAPO side.

PLAN, the People's Liberation Army of Namibia, is the military wing of SWAPO which is fighting the terrorist occupationist army of apartheid South Africa in Namibia.

SOUTH AFRICA

ANC LEADERS MEET IN ZAMBIA ON SWAZILAND FUTURE

AB281247 Paris AFP in English 0846 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Excerpt] Johannesburg, 28 Dec (AFP) -- Leaders of the banned South African black nationalist movement the African National Congress (ANG) had urgent talks in Lusaka, Zambia, last week on the future position of the movement in Swaziland, the Rand DAILY MAIL reported here today.

The 24 December meeting, which the paper said was attended by the ANC representative in Swaziland, Stanley Mzaibala, followed a series of recent incidents in the tiny landlocked kingdom wedged between Mozambique and South Africa.

A few days before Christmas two ANC members, George Ndlovu and Kenneth Wungu, were found dead in their bullet-riddled car on the Swazi side of the border with South Africa. South African police denied any involvement.

At the beginning of this month, Swazi security forces clashed with ANC guerrillas trying to enter Swaziland from Mozambique, apparently on their way to South Africa.

The ANC, which was banned by Pretoria in 1960 and formed its military wing Umkhonte We Sizwe (the Spear of the Nation in Zulu) a year later, is tolerated by the Swazi authorities provided it does not use their country as a base for attacks against South Africa.

INSURGENT GROUP ATTACKS PRETORIA POLICE STATION

LD290622 Addis Ababa Radio Freedom in English to South Africa 1930 GMT 28 Dec 81

[Text] Combatants of the people's army, Umkhonte We Sizwe, have attacked a police station in the center of Pretoria, the citadel of the racist regime of South Africa. The attack, which took place on Saturday night, resulted in one policeman killed and several others injured, according to reports censored by the regime. Like in many operations of its kind, the attack on Saturday demonstrated the military skill and sophistication of Umkhonte We Sizwe.

Again rockets and automatic rifles, the AK-47, were used [words indistinct] of the racist regime, which boasts of one of the most sophisticated security networks in the world.

Despite the immediate response of the enemy at the time of the attacks, the gallant combatants of Umkhonte We Sizwe were back at their bases completely unchallenged.